



King Charles, the Prince of Wales and Princess Royal salute as the coffin arrives at the Palace of Westminster. The Dukes of Sussex and York, no longer working royals, were not allowed to salute or wear uniform

A nation pays its respects

Valentine Low

The wait was over. As thousands queued across central London, the Queen was handed to the care of the nation to lie in state in Westminster Hall.

The public will be able to pay their respects until 6.30am on Monday. The mourning began last night after the Queen left Buckingham Palace, her home for 70 years, for the last time, borne on a gun carriage that processed along The Mall watched by tens of thousands of onlookers.

In bright early autumn sunshine, military bands played funeral marches as the King and members of the royal family walked behind the coffin, which was draped with the Royal Standard and bore the imperial state crown on a purple cushion.

For the family, the procession was an opportunity to put on a united front as King Charles walked with his sons, the Prince of Wales and Duke of Sussex, the first time all three have been seen in public together since the Queen died at Balmoral a week ago. Later the Prince and Princess of Wales appeared with the Duke and Duchess of Sussex at Westminster Hall, but there was little interaction between the couples. The

troubles that have beset the royal family in recent years were on stark display. Prince Harry and the Duke of York, both of whom are no longer working members of the royal family, were denied the chance to wear their military uniforms. As the procession passed the Cenotaph, those members of the procession in uniform, including the Princess Royal and the Earl of Wessex, saluted while Harry bowed

pany, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, was lifted on to the catafalque during a short service led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, as more than 50 members of the royal family looked on, together with 280 MPs and peers.

Shortly after the coffin arrived, President Biden said he had spoken to the King to offer his condolences, and that he shared the "great admiration of the American people" for the Queen.

The first vigil was mounted by four officers from the Household Division, two each from the Blues and Royals and the Life Guards. The Queen's children will take part in the ancient ceremony as she lies in state. As a final mark of respect to the late Queen, the Duke of York will be allowed to wear uniform for the vigil.

Just after 5pm, members of the public who had waited for days for positions at the front of the queue were allowed in, and filed past the coffin. Last night the queue was 2.4 miles long, and 750,000 people are expected to make the journey to see the Queen lie in state.

The King ended his day by returning to his Highgrove home in Gloucestershire for a day of reflection today, and to work in private. The Prince and Princess of Wales will visit Sandringham to view floral tributes left there.

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The woman
behind the throne
20-page supplement

and Andrew performed "eyes right" towards the memorial.

The Queen's coffin was transported on the George Gun Carriage, which carried George VI's coffin from Sandringham Church to Wolferton Station in February 1952 and was used for Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's funeral in 2002.

Inside the hall the coffin, carried by a bearer party from the Queen's Com-

Crowds need no protocol to be moved by death's majesty

Quentin Letts
Westminster Hall

They opened the weir gates just after five o'clock and the flow began, a pent-up stream of people who had queued for hours to see the Queen's lying in state. Royalty and its retinues had departed after vespers led by the Archbishop of Canterbury. When it wants, the Church of England does ceremonial like no other. Now here came the ordinary souls, the people who really matter. Fluttering attendance by magpie-robed clergy comes with the rations for a monarch. The obeisance of the British public is less easily acquired.

Arrival was via the St Stephen's entrance to the Palace of Westminster. It delivers you to one of the most dramatic views in architecture: the flagstone steps down to Westminster

Hall. As the pilgrims entered this 1,000-year-old building they blinked at its vastness, the hammerbeam roof forming a Norman barn. Late-afternoon sun shafted through the high windows. There in the centre, spotlit, was Elizabeth R's coffin under the royal standard. It was flanked by yeomen and swan-plumed guardsmen standing so still that they could have been waxworks at Madame Tussauds. The closer you approached, the less real it felt. The soldiers stood with their battle axes at the ready. Breastplates gleamed. Silence.

Youngsters, oldies, the stiff-backed, the half-bent, a few in coat and tie but many more in casual dark garb: the communicants, for that is what they could have been, were a mix. A foggy old gent with tangled grey hair carried a hessian bag. Twin sisters in their thirties stopped as one in front of the mighty catafalque, bowed as one, left as one. Not a word. A

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News Queen Elizabeth II

All the pomp was stripped bare

Valentine Low

For more than 70 years the Queen kept good her promise to serve the people. Yesterday, in a solemn ceremony that wove together the personal and the majestic, centuries of tradition and the palpable grief of a family, she was returned to the nation she served so that the people too may mourn.

After a procession in which the King and other members of his family walked behind his mother's coffin on its journey from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall, the casket was placed on a raised platform, where the Queen will lie in state until Monday morning.

This was pomp and circumstance stripped bare: for the arrival of the coffin the hall was cleared of all seats to become just a cavernous stone space. There was no adornment, just the stained glass windows at either end and, in the middle, a red platform on which, covered in purple, stood the catafalque on which the coffin rests while hundreds of thousands of people file past.

Instead what filled the hall was the grief of the royal family as they handed back the Queen to the care of the nation. To the rest of the country she was the head of state, the head of nation; to the dozens of members of the royal family gathered there she was their mother, their grandmother, their matriarch.

Even before the procession arrived with the senior royals there were 40 members of the royal family in the hall, including Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie and their husbands; the Earl and Countess of Wessex's children, Viscount Severn and Lady Louise Windsor; Zara Tindall and her husband, Mike; and Princess Michael of Kent.

They were joined by the royals who had been driven from Buckingham Palace by car, including the Queen Consort, the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Sussex. As they waited for the procession to arrive, Meghan cut a slightly lonely figure, standing between the Countess of Wessex, who was talking to the Princess of Wales, and the Duke of Kent. She seemed almost self-conscious until finally the countess turned to talk to her.

As the coffin was carried in, draped with the Royal Standard and topped with the imperial state crown that twinkled under the hall lights, Camilla, Kate, Sophie and Meghan curtsied before joining their husbands for their procession up the centre of the hall.

The choir, from Westminster Abbey and the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, greeted the coffin with Psalm 139, *O Lord Thou Hast Searched Me Out*. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, read prayers and a lesson from John: "In my Father's house are many mansions." After a short, simple service, a cross was placed at one end of the coffin, and the company colours of the Queen's Company 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards were laid at the other end, symbols of the Queen's Christian faith and role as commander-in-chief of the armed forces. Then, four officers from the Household Cavalry — two from the Life Guards, two from the Blues and Royals — began the first vigil, taking their places at the corners of the catafalque. Timeless figures in scarlet and blue, as they stood there in plumed helmets they had the air of a Victorian tableau, a scene that belonged to history as much as the present day.

The Queen witnessed such scenes



when her father died in 1952, and 50 years later when her mother died. Every detail had been planned for decades, endlessly rehearsed and signed off by the Queen. One day it will all be repeated again.

When it was over, the royal family — led by the King — turned to leave. Then, slowly, the hall emptied: first, noisily with their stirrups and boots, His Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms; then, more quietly, the Heralds of the College of Arms. After that the MPs and peers filed out, 140 from each House. At last, they were gone. The Queen was alone with her silent body guards, their heads bowed. Another ritual — simple, moving, historic — was over: it was time to let the people in.

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The majesty of death

grandmotherly figure tugged at her shopping trolley. A chap in agricultural green jumper and patched trousers removed his flat cap, fingers nibbling at it while he gazed for a couple of seconds and then shuffled on his way.

Some bowed, some knelt, a few women curtsied. There was no right or wrong, no protocol. Plenty just walked past the coffin, rapt in thought. Plenty of tears. Some needed propping up by friends. One fellow, must have been 6ft 5in and 18 stone, was bereft, sadness pouring out of his crumpled eyes. Many turned as they neared the exit, reluctant to relinquish the woman they had come to honour.

Emotions had built from the moment the procession left Buckingham Palace at 2.22pm, to the strains of Beethoven's funeral march No 1. That was the point when Big Ben started tolling every minute. Each mournful clonnnnggg was followed by a round of distant cannon fire from the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. The double-thump of bell and boom acquired metronomic force. Nails into a coffin lid? The beat of life's inevitabilities? Majesty is a word that has been much heard but maybe what we were feeling was the majesty of death. We need dread it only if we have been very wicked.

The band's Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Chopin swirled up The Mall as the Queen's body made its way, escorted on foot by the King and his male kin. With the exception of the Princess

Royal (honorary bloke), the women were conveyed by car. High heels are not great for funeral marches. At the flanks of the procession were thickset bodyguards, scanning the crowds for trouble. But no one misbehaved. The mood was extraordinarily zen. The coffin was pulled across Horse Guards and turned right into Whitehall. At Westminster the dirges became clearer, along with the clatter and clomp of horses' hooves, the step of polished boots, the scratch of gun-carriage wheels on metal road. New Palace Yard was covered in sand, raked as for an Olympics long-jump pit, to enable the carriage wheels to come to a gentle halt. With a scrunch of heels the bearer party of tall young Grenadiers took the strain and carried the coffin to its stately catafalque, and there it will remain until Monday.

and solemn dignity reigned

The King led his family in the procession from Buckingham Palace along The Mall behind his mother's coffin



TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER JACK HILL: VICTORIA JONES/PA

Tens of thousands tune in to live stream Attenborough shares his memories and lifts hearts

George Sandeman

The live stream of the Queen lying in state was watched by more than 20,000 people during the first hour after it went online.

The BBC began broadcasting the scene from inside Westminster Hall at 5pm yesterday when members of the public were admitted to the oldest building on the parliamentary estate.

Some had been queuing for days, and many overnight, in order to file past the Queen's coffin, which was taken to Westminster Hall on the state gun carriage from Buckingham Palace yesterday afternoon.

Mourners, some in tears, walked past the coffin. Others crossed themselves, curtsied or bowed their heads.

The number of people watching the stream quickly rose to 20,000 and

figures stayed the same for much of the first hour of the broadcast.

As well as being available on the website, the livestream can be viewed on iPlayer, BBC Parliament and via the red button on televisions.

Hundreds of thousands of people were expected to brave a 12-hour wait on the banks of the Thames, with the queue approaching three miles long.

Officials estimate that the queue could eventually stretch for ten miles. To help avoid disappointment, it is understood that entry to the back of the queue may be closed early.

There will be more than 1,000 volunteers, stewards, marshals and police officers on hand at any one time as people brave the wait on the banks of the Thames.

This includes 779 professional stewards per shift, assisted by 100 civil ser-

vice volunteer marshals, 40 adult Scouts, and 30 members of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry charity, as well as Metropolitan Police officers.

The government has issued guidance for those wishing to pay their respects. This includes what can be carried into the hall, the lavatory facilities available for those in the queue (there are more than 500 portable lavatories along the route) and the risk of having to wait through the night.

The Queen will lie in state until 6.30am on Monday, the day of her state funeral, when her coffin will be taken in a grand military procession from the Palace of Westminster to Westminster Abbey.

The day will end when she is interred in the royal vault in the King George VI Memorial Chapel at Windsor, with the Duke of Edinburgh.

George Sandeman

Mourners watching the BBC's coverage of the Queen's coffin procession have spoken of their delight at seeing Sir David Attenborough as a guest on the programme.

The broadcaster, 96, was born two weeks after the Queen and became a friend of Elizabeth and her family during his work as a natural historian and senior manager at the BBC.

He joined the royal historian Robert Hardman and news presenter Huw Edwards on yesterday's broadcast during which Sir David shed light on what the Queen was like as a person.

Viewers took to social media to thank him for his unexpected appearance and

called for the national treasure to be protected from the elements.

One person said: "Excuse me? It is a grey day. There's possibly damp air. Why is he out? Where is the cotton wool? Where is the bubble wrap?"

Another said: "It's all right everyone David Attenborough is still alive he's on the telly today!"

Commenting on the outpouring of national grief, Sir David said: "The actions of today symbolised dignity, and that life has a serious side — expressed by tens of thousands of people in a very moving afternoon."

He added that King Charles's passion for the environment was an asset for the country. "It could be more important now than ever [before]," Sir David said.

News Queen Elizabeth II

Miles to go before they sleep. Yet the line kept swelling

Thousands patiently wait as MPs skip queue, **Ali Mitib, David Brown, Henry Zeffman and Oliver Wright** report

Thousands of mourners joined a queue that reached more than two miles yesterday, becoming some of the first to see the Queen's coffin lying in state before her funeral on Monday.

Westminster Hall opened to the public at 5pm, after a sombre procession following the Queen's final journey from Buckingham Palace.

By the time the hall was opened to the public the queue stretched 2.5 miles eastwards past London Bridge on the other side of the Thames. An estimated 6,500 people waited patiently and in good humour, with a handful of the hardest having arrived at lunchtime on Monday. The hall is open around the clock and mourners queued through the night.

Once the public was allowed access, the line moved briskly towards the Houses of Parliament. An estimated 3,000 mourners an hour will pass through the hall, meaning that more than 300,000 will get to view the coffin before the doors close at 6.30am on Monday, the day of the state funeral.

However last night, according to one man's progress in the queue, it was estimated that only 1,200 mourners per hour were passing through the hall.

Government sources believe in the days ahead mourners will face queues of up to ten miles as up to 750,000 people try to see the Queen's coffin.

Trisha, who is No 2,026 in the queue, spoke about "sharing stories" with fellow mourners. She said: "Everyone's very friendly, and we're all here for the same thing, which is to honour the Queen. We've met some nice people and we shared stories. We've even shared contact details. I've met someone I was at school with. It's great."

But as mourners filed past the Queen's coffin, the mood was one of quiet respect. Footsteps were muffled by plush carpet running on both sides of the catafalque, with the silence pierced at times by quiet sniffles.

But there was an uneasy disconnect between the two lines of grief flowing either side of the Queen's coffin.

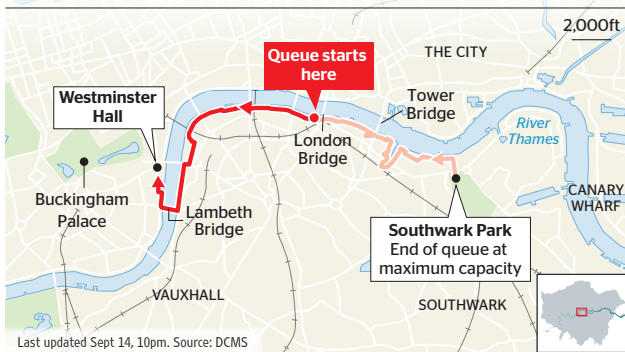
One was the bedraggled families who had queued in the rain for up to 24 hours. A second, passing on the other side of the coffin, was made up of dignitaries fast-tracked into the hall.

This perceived "queue-jumping" by parliamentarians and their families ahead of the public who had waiting for hours has led to a backlash for the Westminster authorities.

MPs, peers and up to four guests each are being given special access at arranged times. Michael Ellis, the recently appointed attorney-general, and other members of the cabinet were quick to take advantage of the privilege.

There are 650 MPs and 756 peers, meaning that altogether up to 7,000 spaces in Westminster Hall could go to parliamentarians or their friends when

How far might the queue stretch?



Rail firm off track with pay dispute

Ben Clatworthy
Transport Correspondent

One of the UK's busiest train companies is unable to meet surging demand for trips to the capital because of a long-running industrial dispute.

Avanti West Coast, which operates trains between London and the north of England and Scotland, has been able to lay on additional services only until tomorrow as the deadlock over pay and working conditions escalates.

The operator had to cut its four services an hour between London and Manchester to one this summer, after drivers withdrew their willingness to work overtime.

In a "stakeholder bulletin" issued to rail industry chiefs, the company said: "We are acutely aware that Saturday and Sunday are likely to be extremely busy with people travelling to London to pay their respects. Saturdays and Sundays are particularly difficult at the current time as they have the highest reliance on overtime."

The operator is understood to be in discussion with rival companies, including LNER and Chiltern, about laying on extra services for mourners. Avanti currently relies on many of its 3,000-strong workforce to "volunteer" to work at weekends because of legacy employment contracts.

The company said: "We have been able to put in place up to eight additional services a day on our busiest route between London and Manchester. This will add around 16,000 seats. We expect services to be very busy so ask people to allow plenty of time for their journey."

they might otherwise have gone to members of the public. Officials who work in the Commons and Lords are also jumping the queue.

Eric Burton, 23, who left his home on Isle of Wight at 9am to join the line, was one of the many disappointed by the news that a VIP queue was being formed inside Westminster Hall as he waited patiently outside.

"I don't really like how MPs always get the front row tickets," he said. "They should join in with the rest of the queue. We're all flesh and blood in the end and we all want to pay our respects to the Queen. We're all human, why should they be treated differently?"

There is also anger inside Westminster that only those directly employed by the parliamentary authorities get privileged access. It has not been extended to contractors such as cleaners, security staff and caterers who have been helping to prepare the Palace of Westminster for the sudden influx of mourners. Staff working for MPs and peers will also be expected to join the public queue.

One Conservative peer told *The Times* the mood was "revolutionary" and an "urgent rethink" was needed.

The coffin sits on a raised platform in the centre of the hall and is guarded around the clock by units from the Sovereign's Bodyguard, Foot Guards or the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment. The guard changes every 20 minutes, halting the passing mourners for about five minutes, which could mean tens of thousands fewer people gaining access.

Malachi Carol, 19, who suffers from epilepsy and was using a wheelchair after fracturing his spine two months ago, joined the queue at about 12.30pm after taking the train from Nottinghamshire. Carol, who suffers up to three epileptic episodes a day, said: "We're looking at a six-hour wait and I don't mind. I just want to experience the occasion. It's history in the making."

Chloe Harkness, 11, was one of the youngest in the line as she had an inset day from school. Neither Chloe nor her father Lee, 51, a clinical psychologist, had had any sleep since setting off from Lancashire on Tuesday.

"I think I am going to be more grateful than sad," Chloe said. "I'm proud of what the Queen's done — it is going to be one of those goosebump moments."

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TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER RICHARD POHLE; PETER TARRY FOR THE TIMES; ALEX LENTATI/LNP

King retreats to Highgrove for day of reflection

Times Staff

The King is to have a private day of reflection after a momentous period in which he became monarch and travelled an estimated 1,500 miles around the realm, all while grieving for his “darling mama”.

Charles has returned to his Highgrove home in Gloucestershire and is not expected to attend any public events today. In the detailed planning for the aftermath of the Queen's death — known as London Bridge — a day was set aside at this point for the new monarch to have some time away from public duties.

Yesterday the King led the royal family in a public display of homage to the late Queen. They walked behind her coffin as it was carried into Westminster Hall, where it will lie in state until the funeral on Monday.

Watched by tens of thousands lining the route from Buckingham Palace, the King delivered his mother to the hands of the nation for the next few days.

It was the culmination of an intense week for the new King. Last Wednesday, the then Prince Charles had spent the day working and hosting guests at Dumfries House in Cumnock, East Ayrshire, according to his friend Alan Titchmarsh, the broadcaster and gardener.

On Thursday, Charles travelled 150 miles from Dumfries House to Balmoral, the Queen's home in Aberdeenshire, when it became clear she was reaching the end of her life.

After her death was announced, he stayed overnight at Balmoral before making the 45-mile journey to Aberdeen airport.

Charles and Camilla, his Queen Consort, flew 400 miles to RAF Northolt, west London, landing at about 1.30pm on Friday. He then travelled 14 miles to Buckingham Palace, where he arrived to a

warm welcome from well-wishers gathered outside the gates.

Later that day, the King delivered a historic televised address to the nation, in which he paid a moving tribute to his “darling mama”, and had a first audience with Liz Truss, the prime minister.

Charles spent the weekend in London, where he was formally declared head of state during a meeting of the accession council, had an audience with the cabinet and shook hands with members of the public as he returned to Clarence House, his official London residence.

On Monday he addressed parliament before flying 400 miles to a bustling Edinburgh airport to continue his tour of the home nations. Charles and the Queen Consort were met by Nicola Sturgeon, the first minister of Scotland and travelled 15 miles to the Palace of Holyroodhouse where the Queen's coffin lay at rest in the throne room.

The King led a procession behind the Queen's coffin along the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral, joined by his siblings Anne, Andrew and Edward. On Tuesday he returned to Edinburgh airport, where he boarded a flight travelling 140 miles to Belfast City airport.

Continuing his Operation Spring Tide tour around the UK, Charles and Camilla were greeted by cheering crowds when they arrived at Hillsborough Castle in Co Down. The King attended a memorial service and pledged to “seek the welfare” of all Northern

Ireland's people before flying to RAF Northolt. On Tuesday evening he was back at Buckingham Palace, where he witnessed the arrival of the Queen's coffin.

It is understood he will use the rest period to prepare for his role and will be receiving red boxes of state papers.

King Charles III has travelled about 1,500 miles since his mother's death



Mourners file past the Queen's coffin in Westminster Hall, where it is guarded around the clock by different units, after first queuing for hours in a line that stretched along Lambeth Embankment and is expected to reach up to ten miles

RAF debunks theory of tail number tribute to Elizabeth

George Sandeman

Eagle-eyed royal watchers thought they had spotted a secret tribute to the late Queen by the Royal Air Force after some noticed that the plane carrying her coffin had a tail number which seemed to spell out a diminutive of her name.

On Tuesday social-media users pointed out that the C-17 Globemaster taking the coffin from Edinburgh to London had the tail number ZZ177, which appears to spell LIZZ when viewed upside down.

Screenshots of the tail number were shared on Twitter, with one user, Dr Benjamin Tripp, a former RAF officer, saying: “I don't believe in coincidences, never have, but love what the RAF did yesterday when

transporting the late HM Queen down to London.

“If you're not sure what I am on about, look at the tail number and turn the image upside down.”

Paul Hennessey, who also served in the RAF, asked BBC Radio Lincolnshire if they could confirm whether the selection of the plane was a decision taken by the “top brass”.

An RAF source explained that all eight of its C-17 transport aircraft share the first four of five letters and numerals on their tail numbers, according to the Daily Mail.

This means that they would all read LIZZ, if read upside down, and that it was completely coincidental that the aircraft used to transport the Queen was the seventh of the fleet, which provided the extra L.

News Queen Elizabeth II

A lifetime later, two brothers

Jack Blackburn History Correspondent

They were together in public at last — the King and his sons. They joined each other, despite estrangement, to grieve for a mother and grandmother.

Amid all the ceremony, the crowds and the regalia, the bonds of family were on full display. The King followed behind his mother's coffin but his status as the new monarch had all but vanished for the moment. He walked alongside his brothers and sister simply as another sibling, together in grief.

There were memories of tragic days that had come before. Princes William and Harry know the weight of these processions too well. And they were united again, more than 25 years on from when they did the same for their mother while they were still boys.

Yesterday, in the poignant 38-minute procession to Westminster, they walked behind their grandmother's coffin side by side. At their grandfather's funeral last year, their cousin Peter Phillips had walked in between them.

Their wives travelled in separate cars, with Meghan accompanied by the Countess of Wessex and Catherine joined by the Queen Consort.

There were reminders, however, of the difficulties that still haunt this family. When they passed the Cenotaph, all the royals in military regalia saluted. Princes Harry and Andrew, in their morning dress and out of "the Firm", kept their arms by their sides.

They had all come together nevertheless to mourn and to honour. So had the soldiers, the bands and the crowds. Not 15 weeks ago they had gathered on these very streets to celebrate the 70th year of Elizabeth II's long reign. They came again yesterday to take part in the long farewell.

Draped in the Royal Standard and bearing the imperial state crown, her coffin was borne by the King's Troop on the George Gun Carriage. That same carriage bore the Queen's father, George VI, and her mother, Queen Elizabeth — their daughter's coffin passed both their statues yesterday. The soldiers had mustered in the sunny early afternoon outside Buckingham Palace and marched into Parliament Square. More than 320 military personnel were taking part.



The brothers William and Harry as they were yesterday and in 1997

At 2.22pm the coffin of Elizabeth II left Buckingham Palace for the last time. A shouted order came, the bands of the Grenadier and Scots Guards struck up and the procession began.

They had little more than a mile to walk but the solemn strides stretched the march for 40 minutes. A beat of 75 steps per minute, which is reserved for funerals, marked their time. Dismounted troops from the Life Guards left the palace gates first as the Coldstream Guards looked on. A troop of mounted Household Cavalry joined.

Then came members of the Queen's household, ranging from the director of the royal collection to Paul Whybrew, one of her pages.

As the coffin was pulled into view, the crowd watched in silence. Some were still while others wept. The march was punctuated by the minute guns from Hyde Park and the tolling of Big Ben.

Thousands of people packed the route, across The Mall, through Horse

Guards Parade and down Whitehall. At times, the procession drew well-intentioned cheers from onlookers.

Beside the coffin marched pallbearers, each one a former equerry to Her Majesty. The coffin was escorted by an officer from the Grenadier Guards, including a bearer party from the Queen's Company. The royals followed. His Majesty wore his uniform as a marshal of the RAF, the Princess Royal was in the uniform of a Royal Navy admiral and the Earl of Wessex had a blues uniform of an honorary royal colonel of the Royal Wessex Yeomanry. The Queen's adult male grandsons came next, with Peter Phillips joining William and Harry, the former in RAF dress. Her son-in-law, Vice-Admiral Sir Timothy Laurence, her cousin the Duke of Gloucester, and her nephew the Earl of Snowdon also took part.

Members of the King's former household as the Prince of Wales and the Blues and Royals were ahead of another troop from the Household Cavalry. The procession was topped and tailed by the addition of mounted Metropolitan Police.

At Parliament Square members of each of the three services were gathered to greet their former commander-in-chief. The coffin arrived at Westminster Hall shortly after 3pm.

Other royals including Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie looked on as Her Majesty's coffin was laid upon the catafalque. After a short service, the Earl Marshal and the Lord Great Chamberlain led members of the royal family out of Westminster Hall.

The senior members proceeded in pairs, each lined up with their respective spouses. Some bade farewell to the late Queen before leaving. The Earl of Wessex and Duke of Sussex bowed their heads. The Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Sussex curtsied. The King and Queen Consort paused to thank the Archbishop of Canterbury. As they spoke, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, who first reappeared together at Windsor to greet mourners on Saturday, waited in the doorway. William and Catherine gazed solemnly into the distance while Harry and Meghan looked at each other.



PRINCES' FINAL FAREWELL TO THEIR MOTHER

Mournful royal processions are rare. They have taken place on only seven occasions in the past century. Despite that sweep of time, William and Harry have been involved in more than half of them (Jack Blackburn writes).

It is a reminder of the sadness and tragedy the pair have seen. In another unusual sighting of them together again, the princes marched behind a coffin for the fourth royal death they have experienced.

The last time was the lockdown-affected funeral last year of their grandfather the Duke of Edinburgh, and before then in 2002, of their great-grandmother the Queen Mother. But their thoughts must surely always turn to the first

and most tragic time they made this solemn march.

In 1997, after the death of their mother Diana, Princess of Wales, it was decided that they would walk behind her coffin. William was 15 while Harry was a few days short of his 13th birthday.

The Queen's decision to keep the boys at Balmoral and not return to London immediately was drawing fierce criticism, as the monarchy appeared uncaring for the death of a woman who had lost the title of Her Royal Highness after her divorce from Prince Charles. This resulted in the nadir of the Queen's popularity during her reign.

The debate over whether the boys should join the procession took in the new government of Tony Blair. Alastair Campbell, Blair's chief

press secretary, revealed in his diaries that Sandy Henney, then Charles's press secretary, had said that Diana would have wanted William to take part in it. "She [Sandy Henney] was obviously saying it was what his mother would have wanted whilst there was also the fact it would avoid the risk of Charles being publicly attacked," Campbell wrote.

Campbell would say the young William thought the plan was being contrived for the benefit of "the media and the public, not for their mother". In the end, they walked between their father and their uncle, Earl Spencer, Diana's brother. Prince Philip joined them having opposed the plan, supposedly telling No 10: "We are talking about two boys who have just lost their mother." He

supported his grandsons, telling them: "I'll walk if you walk."

The brothers placed wreaths on the coffin. On his, Harry left a letter in an envelope simply addressed to "Mummy".

"The princes' final farewell," declared the headline in *The Sunday Times* the following day, noting the "effort of will" it took for them not to cry and reporting cries of "the poor boys" from the crowd. "Prince William seemed numb, lost in his own thoughts," Margaret Driscoll wrote in the paper.

William would later describe it as "one of the hardest things I've ever done". Harry said it was something no child "should be asked to do", but later that he did not "have an opinion whether that was right or wrong" and was "very glad" to have taken part.



set off on another sad march

Captain's family traces duty back to the coronation

EMILIO MORENATTE; NARIMAN EL-MOFTY/AP; GREGORIO BORGIA/AFP; CHRISTOPHER FURLONG/GETTY IMAGES



Larisa Brown Defence Editor

A British Army captain whose grandmother was a maid of honour at the Queen's coronation in 1953 was among more than 170 military personnel taking part in yesterday's procession.

Thomas Muir, 27, from Berkshire, led the Life Guards of the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment as the Queen's coffin was taken on a gun carriage from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall, where she will lie in state until her funeral on Monday.

Muir's grandmother, Lady Rosemary Muir, now 93, had the responsibility of escorting the Queen on her first journey as monarch in 1953. "Now, in 2022, her grandson will escort [the Queen] on her last," the Ministry of Defence said.

Muir said after the procession: "It was a hell of an experience. The preparations have been fast and furious. There were relentless rehearsals to get this right. We wanted to make sure we did our best by her."

He said that he was meant to have been deploying overseas last week but had been able to stay and take part. "I am absolutely honoured to be involved," he said. "The crowds today were absolutely astonishing. It shows just how much she meant to the country to stun that many to silence today."

Lady Rosemary, the daughter of John Spencer-Churchill, 10th Duke of Marlborough, was one of the six maids of honour who stood by the Queen as she was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

Muir, who has served three years in the military, said: "I think she would have been as honoured as I was today."

Muir has taken part in several other

parades, including the Queen's birthday parade, the Platinum Jubilee pageant and this year's Garter Service. He was commissioned into the Life Guards in 2019 and spent his first two years with the armoured side of the regiment on Salisbury Plain. In October last year he completed the riding course and took command of 1 Troop, the Life Guards.

He will play more parts later in the week, and in the funeral on Monday.

More than 320 military personnel from all three services are to take part in ceremonial activity on Wednesday.

The coffin was carried in procession by a bearer party of the Queen's Company 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards from a gun carriage and placed on a catafalque in Westminster Hall. The pallbearers were armed forces personnel from across the three services, and all served as equerries to the Queen.

The procession marched at a pace of 75 steps per minute that is reserved for funerals and keeps time with the slow pace of the gun carriage.

The George gun carriage carried George VI's coffin from Sandringham Church to Wolferton station in February 1952. It was also used in the funeral of the Queen Mother in 2002.

British troops were also on the streets to help the police with crowd control as huge numbers of mourners arrived in the capital.

Members of the Royal Military Police were among up to 1,500 troops expected to be sent to locations along the route to Westminster Hall to help with stewarding. Army bomb disposal teams and experts in disabling drones are also expected to support the police.

New chapters could result from delay to Harry's book

Ben Ellery

It is the most anticipated book of the year but the Duke of Sussex's memoir will now be delayed due to the death of the Queen and may not be published until next year.

The book provoked criticism when it was announced last summer over fears that it would further inflame tensions within the royal family.

There had been questions over whether the Queen's death may prompt Prince Harry to make edits to the manuscript, which is being published by Penguin Random House.

It was originally anticipated to be released in time for Thanksgiving in the US, at the end of November, and capitalise on the lucrative US market for Christmas. *The Daily Telegraph* reported that sources close to the Sussexes say the death of the Queen has thrown the plans into turmoil. The prince may now write additional chapters on the passing of the Queen.

In July it was revealed that the Prince and ghostwriter JR Moehringer had finished the book and the final manu-

script had been signed off by lawyers.

Penguin has previously announced that Harry will be donating proceeds from the book to charity. The publisher described the book as "a heartfelt memoir from one of the most fascinating and influential global figures of our time".

It has been reported that neither King Charles nor Prince William, nor their lawyers and advisers, have been given the opportunity to preview any parts of the manuscript.

On Friday the King announced that the royal family would remain in mourning until seven days after the Queen's funeral on Monday. Military and charity engagements will then gradually be phased in.

● A New York-based financial technology company backed by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex has raised \$50 million. The latest funding round will enable Ethic to continue its growth, the \$2 billion asset manager said. Last October it was revealed that the duke and duchess had invested in a previous funding round. The company has declined to say how much they invested or the size of their stake.



United in sorrow, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex joined the Prince and Princess of Wales in Westminster Hall for the lying in state before solemnly paying their respects at the catafalque. Catherine and the Countess of Wessex had

watched as the coffin bearing the imperial state crown was borne into the hall. Lady Louise Windsor, the daughter of the countess, wiped away a tear as Harry and Meghan left the silent hall



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The imperial state crown lay atop the coffin in front of a wreath combining flowers from Balmoral and Windsor. Members of the Household Cavalry accompanied the George gun carriage along The Mall. Pulled by the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, the same carriage was used to bear the Queen's parents



Short shrift for mourners who

Squabbling in the crowd marred the occasion for some, **Lucy Bannerman, Charlotte Wace and Neil Johnston** write

"Put your phones down! Watch it later. The King's about to pass. Put them down."

Perhaps it was a sign of the emotions running high on the Queen's final journey from Buckingham Palace. Or perhaps tempers were fraying after six long days of state spectacle.

As the feuding royal family came together to follow the Queen's coffin down the Mall, her crown sparkling in the sun on its purple velvet cushion, some of the crowds were divided by a dilemma: to film or not to film?

"This is my last chance to say goodbye. I wanted to come in person to feel the atmosphere and pay my respects in my own way," Scott Pepe, 29, said.

But his view was blocked by the sea of mobile phones thrust above heads the moment the procession came into

sight. Instead of the solemn drumbeats of the band, the main sound he could hear as the new King walked by with his two sons was live news coverage being streamed from people's phones. He was so irritated he shouted across the crowd for people to put their phones away. "It was just a moment to bow your head in respectful silence," he said. "Surely people can do two minutes without putting everything on social media? There was no shortage of broadcast cameras, already capturing the event from every imaginable angle, he added.

Most people ignored him. Someone called him miserable. "They can do whatever they like," someone else protested. Others complained that all they could hear was him complaining.

It was a moment of discord in a meticulously choreographed afternoon that otherwise went off without a hitch.

At 2.22pm the coffin appeared, draped in the Royal Standard, followed by the Queen's four children, King Charles, the Princess Royal and the Earl of Wessex, in military uniform. The Duke of York, stripped of royal duties, wore a morning suit, though still insisted on wearing medals. It was so quiet that those at the front could hear

the seagulls land on the Palace gates. When the music began, some people held hands.

Joyce Peeke, 54, and Tracey Willis, 58, both nurses from Poole, had travelled up early in the morning. "I found it really moving, especially the quietness that came over," Peeke said.

For Willis, the most emotional moment was catching sight of Prince Harry. "It was really nice to see the brothers together," she said. "It takes you back to when they were children, and they walked together for their mum. I'm just glad they included him."

"I hope they can start to rebuild and become a family again."

"I wasn't expecting it to be so quiet," said Alex Munro, 41, who had come from Devon with his daughter, Chloe, 21. "I saw in Scotland they were cheering and saying 'God save the King'. Here it was dead silent, just the ring of the gun firing, and the band."

Among the crowds at the beginning of the route were royal household staff who turned out to pay their respects one last time. One woman who had worked for the Queen for 15 years said her whole team came out for the send-off. "We felt we had to be here for the

Richard Morrison Commentary

People talk about the "inexorable march of time". London can rarely have seen or heard a more spine-chilling evocation of that metaphor than was witnessed on The Mall yesterday afternoon. From Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall, the mighty bass drums of the bands of the Scots Guards and Grenadier Guards never faltered: 74 beats each minute — unwavering, metronomic, commanding every footfall from that of king to humble guardsman.

And weaved musically around that, each

melodramatic chord and thudding cadence sealing the solemnity of this slow procession, the massed bands played a seamless medley of funeral marches by Mendelssohn, below, a frequent visitor to Buckingham Palace in Queen Victoria's day, Chopin and Beethoven — though, the pedantic will point out, the most famous funeral march attributed to Beethoven is likely to have been written by his little-known contemporary, Johann Heinrich Walch.

The playing was faultless, and all the more impressive for being delivered by musicians maintaining an impeccable marching formation. The number of bands maintained by the British





The Queen's children, King's Charles III, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex, followed the gun carriage. Behind them came her adult grandchildren, the Prince of Wales, Prince Harry and Peter Phillips. Troopers of the Household Cavalry marched with their swords symbolically reversed



blocked view with their phones

Army has shrunk enormously in recent decades. Despite that, or perhaps because of it, the standard of performance by the uniformed musicians is generally acknowledged to have risen.

What hasn't changed is the non-sensibility, unsentimental delivery of funeral marches. The music is never overlaid with pathos, simply played forthrightly and as it was written, and is all the more stirring for that.

Then, in Westminster Hall, the complete antithesis of the metronomic military tread outside. As the coffin was carried in, the choirs of Westminster Abbey and the Chapel Royal sang Psalm 139 to a minor-keyed Anglican chant: the rhythms governed not by the thwack of drums but by the inflexions of speech and the majestic language of the King James Bible.

After the inexorable march of time, this felt, appropriately, like a prelude to time being suspended for eternity.

Queen leaving the Palace for the last time," she said. "It was very moving and very emotional, but she had all her family around her." Another member of the royal household added: "There was always a sparkle around her."

Yesterday it was the imperial state crown that sparkled in her absence, its diamonds, sapphires, emeralds and rubies flashing vivid colours from atop the gun carriage in the sunlight. Beside it lay a wreath of pine from the gardens at Balmoral and lavender from Windsor, as well as white roses and dahlias.

At Horse Guards Parade the crowds were more restless. They chattered and watched the approaching procession on their phones. One man complained loudly about being duped into paying for a fake hotel room. Throughout the 38-minute journey, guns were fired from Hyde Park by the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. Big Ben tolled at one-minute intervals. Horses, led by an officer's charger named Lord Firebrand, were on their best behaviour.

When the procession turned onto Whitehall, people actually "gasped" when they saw the crown, said Lucy Lucas, 61, from Winchester, Hampshire. "It was extraordinary," she said.

On Whitehall, where crowds were six or seven deep and some climbed on to window sills or lampposts for a better view, the procession was greeted by applause and shouts of "God save the King" and then three cheers.

Clare Greenaway, 39, a documentary maker from Hove, East Sussex, who wore red dreadlocks and piercings, was not a royalist in the traditional sense, but she still found the procession moving. As a film-maker, she wanted to be part of "archive footage of the future — that's the heartstring for me. You see so much historical footage of events like these. I wanted to witness for myself."

She had been hoping for a powerful, communal experience but it was marred slightly by the bad-tempered squabbles over mobile phones, she said.

"If only everyone could have put aside their differences for a moment," she said. The woman beside her agreed.

"What they did was beautiful," said Suki Allday, pointing in the direction of the procession as it disappeared through the arch of Horse Guards Parade. "What we did was not." She hoped that the two camps with opposing views on mobile phones could agree a truce in time for the funeral on Monday.

Heathrow cancels flights to cut noise during procession

Ben Clatworthy
Transport Correspondent

Flights were cancelled and others put in holding patterns as Heathrow introduced self-imposed noise restrictions during the Queen's procession.

The UK's biggest airport forced the cancellation of 16 British Airways flights despite being exempt from flying restrictions over central London.

The airport said in a statement that "out of respect" for the mourning period, it would be making "appropriate alterations to our operation".

This included flights being disrupted between 1.50pm and 3.40pm yesterday to "ensure silence over central London as the ceremonial procession moves from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall". More flights are expected to be cancelled during Monday's funeral.

Heathrow said: "Passengers will be notified by their airlines directly of any

changes to flights. We anticipate further changes to the Heathrow operation on Monday and will communicate those in more detail over coming days.

"We apologise for the disruption these changes cause."

Sources said that the airport had "taken matters into its own hands" and was enforcing noise limits that neither the government nor the Palace felt were necessary.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has also imposed a restriction on airspace over central London which bans aircraft — including drones — flying below 2,500ft above sea level. The order is in force until 7am on Monday.

The CAA will publish an updated "restriction of flying regulations" document to include the funeral in the next 24 hours. The current order exempts any aircraft making an approach to, or departing from, London City and Heathrow as well as RAF Northolt.

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Aide who won't shy from speaking truth to royalty

The King's most trusted adviser is expert at seeing all the angles, write **Ben Ellery** and **Charlotte Wace**

When the Duchess of Sussex claimed that a member of the royal family had questioned the colour of her child's skin there was one person the monarchy turned to for advice.

Sir Clive Alderton, an aide to the King, provided Buckingham Palace

with the now infamous wording "recollections may differ", friends suggest.

"The famous phrase 'recollections may vary' was his," a friend said. "I just laughed and thought, that is so Clive. It would be a perfect example of how he is very good with language, he's

extremely articulate. He loves a debate and always wins an argument."

As Charles's most trusted adviser Alderton, 55, finds himself at the heart of power and will face scrutiny as never before. This was in evidence this week when he was criticised for a letter putting Clarence House staff on notice of redundancy during the thanksgiving service for the Queen at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh on Monday.

Friends say he can handle the pres-

sure, having been an aide to the King since 2006, helping steer him through some of his most testing challenges.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex were believed to have had difficult dealings with him as they tried to negotiate a future based in the United States.

"He has to make some tough calls that haven't always gone down well," the friend said. "On occasion he has to put his foot down ... and he's good at that. He's a born diplomat in that he's

very charming and understanding of someone else's perspective, accommodating it but somehow steering it round to what he wants.

"I've seen him in many meetings around the table with officials and they'll tell him what they want, he'll say 'great' but at the end they will have agreed to do what Charles wanted.

"He's one of the most, if not the most, intelligent people I've ever met. He didn't go to university, he got fast-tracked into the Foreign Office. He broke a record and was Britain's youngest ambassador. He was the definition of a high flyer."

As well as having a "calculating mind" that can "see all the angles" he is also liked by the King and Queen Consort for his "great sense of humour".

The friend said: "He makes Charles and Camilla laugh. He knows when to lift the spirits, puncture the atmosphere or change the subject. It's important — you must be good company because they spend a lot of time together."

Crownless King will face left on new coins

A coin expert has revealed the most likely design of British coinage featuring the bust of King Charles III.

Going with 400 years of tradition, the king will face left on all eight coins in circulation, the opposite direction to those of the late Queen.

Since Charles II, who chose to "turn his back" on Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth of England, monarchs have alternated direction. Custom also dictates that Latin will be used for the title, along with the wording "CAROLUS III DEI GRATIA REX FID DEF" — Charles III, by the grace of God, King, defender of the faith.

Like George VI, Edward VIII and George V, Charles is expected to be featured without a crown, chiming with his wish for a more modern and "stripped-down" monarchy.

It is likely that the design for the head side of the coins will be the one used by the Royal Mint in 2018, when it issued commemorative £5 coins to mark Charles's 70th birthday. This design has already been approved by the mint.

It will be up to Charles to decide on the design for the other side of the coin, but given his passion for wildlife, British flora and fauna may feature.

Experts predict that the first "Carolus" coins will be issued in time for Charles to hand them out at the Royal Maundy Service next Easter. At the service, at Westminster Abbey, the monarch gives coins to recipients nominated by clergy. These will probably be commemorative pieces, before a mass issue to coincide with the coronation next summer.

Unless there is a change in the shape of coins, those with the Queen's portrait will remain in circulation for decades.

Gregory Edmond, a numismatist at the London auctioneers Spink and Son, said: "It is the tradition for kings and queens to alternate direction from reign to reign ... Only once has this custom been broken — infamously by Edward VIII, who abdicated in December 1936 to marry Wallis Simpson. He stubbornly chose to face left as his father, King George V."

Edmond added that banknotes with Charles on them probably would not be issued until at least 2025. This is largely because the seven-year programme to issue the new polymer notes has only recently been completed, and the last remaining paper notes are due to be phased out at the end of this month.



Ben Tubuna, 21, recruited by the British Army while at school in Fiji, said that volunteer pallbearers were sought two months ago. Tubuna helped carry the Queen's coffin in Edinburgh. He moved to Scotland to serve in the army in 2020



'Nervous but humbled' pallbearer learnt of his role on day Queen died

A pallbearer for the Queen has described his pride at being chosen and said that he was informed of his role on the day she died (Charlie Parker writes).

Ben Tubuna, 21, admitted he was nervous as he lifted Her Majesty's

coffin out of the hearse and walked slowly through the doors of Holyroodhouse Palace in Edinburgh on Sunday.

Images of the soldier from the Royal Regiment of Scotland were broadcast live across the world, with millions watching his every move.



Tubuna, who is from Rewa in Fiji, described feeling humbled as he shared the weight of the late monarch's lead-lined oak coffin with seven other soldiers.

He indicated that he would carry the coffin in London on the day of her state funeral next week.

Members of the regiment had been asked to volunteer to become pallbearers for Her Majesty two months ago and were selected "solely based on performance", the soldier said.

"I was informed by my superiors that I would be a pallbearer on the

"He loves socialising; he can socialise late into the night and get up first thing in the morning fresh as a daisy."

Alderton was educated at Abingdon School, an independent school in Oxfordshire, and joined the Foreign Office in 1986.

His diplomatic posts included stints in Poland, Belgium, Singapore and France. Between 2006 and 2008, he served as deputy private secretary to the King and Queen Consort, then the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall. He was promoted to private secretary for foreign and commonwealth affairs in 2009, a post he left in 2012 when he took up an appointment as ambassador to Morocco and non-resident ambassador to Mauritania. He returned to the royal household about seven years ago as Charles and Camilla's principal private secretary, the most senior position in their household.

A former aide who worked with Alderton for several years said: "He was specifically asked back, which in itself is



Sir Clive Alderton, left, spends more time with the King than his own family

unusual and a sign of the high esteem in which he is held by both of their Majesties." The former aide said the plans unfolding after the Queen's death were longstanding, "but the design and the really important context has been

crafted by Clive to make sure that they fit with the mood of the country now".

Alderton is said to have played an "integral" role during recent challenges around the future of the Duke of York and "Megxit", when the Duke and

Duchess of Sussex stepped down as working royals. The former aide said: "When I worked with him I used to say that he likes to play five-dimensional chess. His ability to predict how issues will play out over the long term is phenomenal."

"His understanding of the King and how he will react in certain circumstances is probably his greatest asset — coupled with an encyclopaedic understanding of the constitution and royal and political history. Taken together, what you have is an incredible strategist and problem solver wrapped up in a very charming demeanour."

"I would add that his way of defusing situations and perhaps persuading the King and Queen Consort with occasional use of bonhomie and humour is also extremely impressive."

"Court life is not without its challenges and to survive as long as Clive has is an absolute skill in itself and to have done it ... has been a testament to his abilities. You never see him lose his

temper, even in the most trying of circumstances. He's a realist. He understands the difference between the ideal outcome and the pragmatic solution."

Alderton lives in Haywards Heath, West Sussex, with his wife Catriona, an artist. They have two children, who are both adults and are believed to have finished university.

"He's a culture vulture," the former staff member said. "He loves art, loves the theatre. He's quite a cultured man but through his children is connected to what's happening in the world with audiences of all ages."

Kristina Kyriacou, a former communications secretary with Charles, said that Alderton was not afraid to disagree with the King.

"They respect one another," she said. "Clive sees him more than he sees his own family. Clive will have a view on most things and is not afraid to speak the truth to Charles. His experience will stand him in good stead. He is well equipped for the job."

More royal staff fear redundancy via 'death clause'

James Beal, Valentine Low

Royal staff are braced for further job losses after former Buckingham Palace employees claimed that they were given contracts which expired six months after the Queen died.

Former aides told *The Times* that a six-month grace period following the monarch's death was included in their employment agreements.

It follows redundancy letters being sent to about 100 employees of Clarence House just as they were working long hours to smooth the King's elevation to the throne.

Buckingham Palace staff could also now be facing an uncertain future.

One former aide, who did not want to be named, said that Buckingham Palace workers recognised that when the monarch died, their employment status could change. They said: "Each household has their own retinue of top advisers and it becomes a duplication of staff when the sovereign has gone."

The six-month specification in employment contracts was understood to be a grace period in which they could either be kept on by the new King, reassigned within the royal family or made redundant, sources said.

Buckingham Palace declined to comment last night but sources said they did not recognise the claims.

Dozens of Clarence House staff were given notices of redundancy as the offices of King Charles and the Queen Consort moved to Buckingham Palace.

Private secretaries, the finance office, the communications team and household staff are among those who received letters during a thanksgiving service for the Queen in Edinburgh on Monday.

Many staff are said to have assumed that they would be amalgamated into the King's new household.

One source told *The Guardian* that everyone was "absolutely livid" and some were left "visibly shaken" at the move, announced in a letter by Sir Clive Alderton, the King's top aide. Alderton's note did stress that certain staff providing "direct, close, personal support and advice" to the new King and Queen's Consort would remain in post.

No final decisions are understood to have been taken as a consultation period, which will begin after the state funeral on Monday, needs to be completed first.

Staff made redundant from Clarence House are expected to be offered opportunities to search for alternative employment across all royal households. They will also be offered an "enhanced" redundancy payment.

A Clarence House spokesman said: "Following last week's accession, the operations of the household of the former Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall have ceased and, as required by law, a consultation process has begun."

"Our staff have given long and loyal service and, while some redundancies will be unavoidable, we are working urgently to identify alternative roles for the greatest possible number of staff."



day Her Majesty passed on," Tubuna told *The Fiji Times*. "I felt blessed that, being a Fijian, I was given such an important task, but I accepted it with humility because this is my job, it is a role I have to fulfil as a soldier."

"I informed my family back home

and they were so proud and happy for me."

"To be chosen to carry Her Majesty's casket is indeed an honour and I feel humbled to be bestowed with such a unique opportunity."

He said he was "excited to be part

of Her Majesty's burial ceremony" on Monday.

In a separate interview with the *Fiji Sun* he said that the pallbearers had been practising the day before her death was announced last week.

"Two months ago we were asked to volunteer to become pallbearers for the late Queen Elizabeth II's funeral. Me and another Fijian were selected to be part of the procession. Unfortunately, my fellow colleague could not participate."

Describing the moment he took the weight of the coffin, he said: "It felt so surreal. I was happy yet nervous at the same time. But we did a lot of rehearsals."

Tubuna moved to Inverness in northeast Scotland to serve in the armed forces in November 2020, according to his Facebook page.

He was drafted by the British Army while still a student at Dilkusha Methodist High School in southern Fiji in 2019.

The soldier is said to hold a similar role in his home country as "Qase ni Vale" for the paramount chief of Rewa. When a member of the chiefly clan dies his duties involve digging the grave, carrying the casket and burying the body, according to Ro Teimumu Kepa, a Fijian chief and an MP.

She said that he was very familiar with his role as a pallbearer as it was the role that his "ancestors did and has been passed down from generation to generation. It is nothing new to him."

"It is his role when it comes to the Roko Tui Dreketi [the paramount chief] and he is doing it now for Her Majesty the Queen."

Tubuna's father, Semi Tubuna, said: "I thank God for his provision in my son's life."

"I am proud of my son who has played such a pivotal role and I am sure he has made every Fijian proud wherever they may be."

"When Queen Elizabeth II died, the same night our son called to inform us that he had been chosen from his platoon to be a pallbearer."

"When I saw my son's picture on Facebook I felt this sense of pride. He was able to lift the name of our family and Fiji as a whole."

In posts on Tubuna's social media pages he says that "everything comes from hardworking", adding: "You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have."

Captioning one photograph of himself standing in front of a military helicopter, he said: "Never give up on your life. Just get up dress up and show up ... and make the job done."



Clarence House staff gather to watch the procession of the Queen's coffin

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Met police may retake the oath of allegiance

Fiona Hamilton Crime Editor

Every officer in the Metropolitan Police may have to retake their oath of allegiance, to King Charles III, under a proposal by the new commissioner Sir Mark Rowley, *The Times* has learnt.

Rowley told rank-and-file officers on Tuesday that he had found it “very powerful” when he was sworn back into office as he took the helm of the force.

He is conducting an internal survey to determine whether there is support for 30,000 officers to retake their oath now that the Queen has died.

Under UK law, all serving officers must take the oath in which they swear to serve the monarch with “fairness, integrity, diligence and impartiality”.

Rowley, 57, the former national head of counterterrorism, had to take the oath again after spending four years in the private sector. There is no requirement for officers who gave allegiance to the Queen to retake the oath.

Rowley, who is embarking on a period of reform at the Met, is considering it as a symbolic gesture. He took over the force on Monday seven months after Dame Cressida Dick was ousted by Sadiq Khan, the mayor of London. Khan said he lost confidence in her after scandals involving misogyny and racism among her officers.

Rowley and Khan walked through Westminster together yesterday ahead of the procession for the lying in state of the Queen. They thanked officers who have come from across the UK to support the security operation and visited the Met’s specialist operations room at Lambeth.

Rowley is not setting out his plans until after the funeral but *The Times* has revealed he has described his mission

as “more trust, less crime, higher standards”. Rowley has said he wants to send an officer to every burglary, improve visible policing and clamp down on corruption. While he thanked officers for their hard work, in a recorded message, he also said he was “disappointed” to see, in weekend patrols, some officers’ attention was not fully on their duties or the public.

He may wish officers to retake the oath to refocus them, but it will be a big logistical challenge, as they must swear their oath in front of a magistrate. They either attend court for a ceremony, or a magistrate may travel to police premises to swear in large numbers of officers.

One police source questioned why Rowley was considering the oath when he expressed concern about the courts backlog, which has hit 60,000 cases.

Another said: “It’s a good idea to be reminded of your obligations. The oath is everything, if you stick to it you’ll be OK as a cop. It’s really important.”

After swearing his oath on Monday, Rowley paid tribute to the Queen for her “unstinting public service, stoicism in times of turbulence and dedication to the people she served”. He said the lying in state was a “massive challenge” but said preparations had been ongoing for years and “we will have a safe event”.

The Met said that Rowley had asked for feedback about retaking the oath in a staff Q&A, but that responses had not yet been collated.

Rowley has told colleagues he will enforce higher standards and be “ruthless” in removing corrupt and prejudiced officers. He has recognised that many staff were disillusioned due to a “blurred mission, too much bureaucracy and inadequate systems”.

“I promise I will do better,” he said.



US paper's food banks jibe at Charles Hero's son recalls kindness of Her Majesty at VC event

James Callery

King Charles's financial gains over the last decade, at a time when the use of food banks in Britain doubled, have been criticised in *The New York Times*.

In an article published on Tuesday, the newspaper noted that Charles had “spent half a century turning his royal estate into a billion-dollar portfolio and one of the most lucrative money-makers in the royal family business”.

The report added that Charles had played a big part in developing the Duchy of Cornwall. The team he put together over the last ten years, it noted, had generated a 50 per cent increase in the value and profits of his portfolio.

Laura Clancy, author of *Running the Family Firm: How the Monarchy Manages its Image and Our Money*, told the paper: “The duchy has been steadily commercialising over the past few decades. It is run like a commercial business with a CEO and over 150 staff.”

She added that what had once been

considered simply a “landed gentry pile of land” was now run like a corporation.

The Duchy of Cornwall was established in 1337 to bring in money for the heir to the throne. The Prince of Wales is not entitled to the proceeds or profit on the sale of capital assets and receives only the annual income they generate.

As King, Charles will take over his mother's portfolio of investments and land, and inherit a share of her personal fortune.

The New York Times reported that Charles's lifestyle of “palaces and polo has long fuelled accusations that he is out of touch with ordinary people. And he has at times been the unwitting symbol of that disconnect.”

The article, written by Jane Bradley and Euan Ward, from London, said that the duchy had been “generating tens of millions of dollars a year” and “done so without paying corporation taxes like most businesses in Britain are obliged to, and without publishing details about where the estate invests its money”.

The paper noted that Charles and the royal family's wealth had grown as the UK experienced economic struggle.

According to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 22 per cent of the UK population — 14.5 million people — now live in poverty. Of these, 8.1 million are working-age adults, 4.3 million are children and 2.1 million are pensioners. The overall figure has been at 20 per cent or above since 1994-95.

The Trussell Trust has reported that in the year to March its food banks distributed more than 2.1 million emergency food parcels, an increase of 14 per cent against the same period in 2019-20. The charity's data indicates that there have been 2.4 million food bank referrals in the last year, compared with 1.1 million in the 2014-15 period.

In 2017, leaked financial documents known as the Paradise Papers revealed that Charles's duchy estate had invested millions in offshore companies, including a Bermuda-registered business run by one of his best friends.

Hero's son recalls kindness of Her Majesty at VC event

Peter Chappell

It was one of the most fabled acts of valour from the Falklands War. Yet little is known of the ceremony during which the Queen awarded Lieutenant Colonel “H” Jones a posthumous Victoria Cross. The medals, when they are posthumous, are presented behind closed doors.

Now his son, Major General Rupert Jones, has told Times Radio of the “special” moment his family received the award and how the Queen had managed to put Jones and his brother, teenagers at the time, at ease.

“We’d been cast into the spotlight,” he said. “I remember her asking my brother and me whether, like all brothers, we fought all the time. So yes, you know, that wonderful touch to make you feel special and relaxed.”

He added: “She’d been presented,

once upon a time, with a piece of the Crimea cannon, because the Victoria Cross is cut from a Crimean war cannon. And we all have this kind of image of her rifling through her drawers trying to find a bit of metal to show it to us. But it was a lovely memory and a great privilege to receive the medal from her.”

Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Jones, VC, OBE, became a hero of the Falklands War when he was killed at Goose Green. His VC citation recounts how he “seized a sub-machinegun, and, calling on those around him and with total disregard for his own safety, charged the nearest enemy position”. He was shot and killed, but his actions “completely undermined” the enemy's morale.

The medal is the highest award of the British honours system, with only 1,358 awarded since its creation in 1856.

PETER BYRNE/PA; TERRY HARRIS; SPLASH NEWS; SOULSAND/COVER IMAGES

Courage, wisdom and curiosity, the Queen had it all

Her Majesty's lying in state gives everyone a chance to pay tribute, says **Robin Janvrin**, her former private secretary

As the crowds file past our late Queen's coffin in this last great mark of respect, I find myself reflecting yet again on that stardust which made Her Majesty so loved and revered.

A little magic perhaps but such a depth of affection can never be taken for granted — how did she do it? Much of the wonderful coverage since her death has been trying to find answers to this question — in her faith, her wisdom, her extraordinary sense of duty, her common sense and kindness, her wry humour, her sheer stamina day after day. All these attributes and more were certainly part of the mix but here let me single out her courage; her courage to be true to herself and to us, her people.

We know of her physical courage. We have seen the footage of the Trooping incident in 1981, when six blank shots were fired but she controlled her horse, Burmese; and have been reminded of the Michael Fagan break-in the following year as she coolly confronted the intruder in her bedroom.

When asked by one of my private secretary predecessors how she managed the incident, she replied: "You forget, I spend my life chatting to complete strangers." She knew about courage and took a close interest in bravery awards, knowledgeable about the distinction between reactive and premeditated courage. I saw her premeditated courage at first hand in 2005 a few days after the 7/7 terrorist bombings in London when there was a real fear that there might be further incidents.

Despite severe police misgivings she insisted that she should ride in the open-topped Land Rover down The Mall to a parade at Horse Guards. She knew the rest of London was having to go to work as normal. She should do the same. But it was her moral courage that was so much in evidence day after day.

For her the question was never: "Will this be popular?" That for her was entirely the wrong question.

Rather it was: "Is this the right thing to do and will it be seen to be the right thing to do in a year's time?" It took moral courage to take this long-term view, perhaps best exemplified by her willingness to take note of media coverage but not to be driven by it.

I learnt the hard way not to ask her to "do something for the media". Early in my time I persuaded her to give a photo opportunity with other members of the family with the Sandringham fire engine before Christmas because the press wanted some festive pictures, and on the understanding they would not pursue the royal family over the holiday season. The press got their pictures, the family did not get their privacy.

She recognised that the media had a job to do: she tried to ensure good media opportunities on public events and gave private receptions for the media party on overseas visits.

It took moral courage to continue to champion the Commonwealth when it was unfashionable. She understood



Lord Janvrin said the monarch was good at listening as she toured the UK

that the organisation has most to contribute at the people-to-people level. I recall a reception she gave for a group of Commonwealth auditors in London.

Discussing this with her, I might have hinted it was not the most exciting engagement of the week, to which she gave me a lecture about the importance of the fight against corruption and the usefulness of bringing these experts together to strengthen their resolve.

She also had the moral courage to know that in our information-saturated world less is more. She knew that "she had to be seen to be believed" and recognised the importance of the coverage of her going about her daily business — indeed so poignantly to the very end. When it came to expressing her views she knew the value of rarity — which gave the pitch-perfect Covid broadcast such power.

This is where her judgment and understanding about what people want were so important. She had an endless appetite for learning about who was thinking what. She worked at it — just as she did in fulfilling her constitutional role, including with the red boxes.

She read the newspapers assiduously and would often ask me at our daily meeting whether I had read a particular columnist that day. Every morning she read some of the many letters that came in for her. She prided herself on being able to pick the interesting — and critical — ones from the handwriting.

Above all she talked endlessly to people — in her daily audiences, to those sitting next to her at lunches and dinners, during the many receptions and garden parties, on her many visits up and down the country. She was a good listener with a knack of asking the right question and an enviable memory for what she had been told. She engaged with people above all because she enjoyed it — as the King put it at her Platinum Jubilee it was "what gets my mother up in the morning".

Our late Queen understood that respect and affection need to be earned. That she earned it is before our eyes as we witness the lying in state, the final tribute from us, her people. But Her late Majesty should have the last word.

When asked one evening after dinner whether she lay awake and worried about things, she is reported to have said: "I am not sure what you are talking about. I get up in the morning. I do the best I can all day. I go to bed in the evening, say my prayers, and go to sleep. What do you do?" True to us and true to herself, may she rest in peace.

Lord Janvrin, Queen's private secretary 1998-2007 and press secretary, assistant and deputy private secretary 1987-2007



Tugs perform a Fleur De Lis tribute in front of the Three Graces in Liverpool. Thousands of flowers have been left at the gates of Sandringham House in Norfolk, and in London, Tower Bridge was lit in purple. Claire Eason, a sand artist, posted an image of a stamp on Bamburgh beach, Northumberland, which she created for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee



King backs us, say climate protesters

Padraic Flanagan

Climate change activists defended a sit-in outside an oil terminal yesterday by claiming that King Charles, a prominent campaigner on environmental matters, would back their protest during a period of national mourning.

A group of 50 Just Stop Oil protesters with placards sat blocking the main entrance to the Kingsbury oil terminal near Tamworth, Staffordshire at noon, despite a High Court injunction.

The legal order means protesters can be arrested outside the terminal and at nearby road junctions. While police attended the scene, no arrests were made.

Several fuel tankers were prevented from entering the site when the protest began. Others arriving through the afternoon were directed to alternative entrances.

Zoe Cohen, of Just Stop Oil, referred to Charles's comments at last year's UN climate change conference as a justification for the action, saying: "Our new



Just Stop Oil activists block access to the Kingsbury terminal in Birmingham

king, when he was still the Prince of Wales, back at Cop26 in November in Glasgow, he said — and he was right — that we're out of time.

"He said time has run out and we need to be on a war-like footing, and that's the level of transformation we need in society. He might not be saying

it so outwardly now, right now, but he knows, he gets it, and he's right."

At last year's conference, Charles told delegates that the Covid pandemic had demonstrated "just how devastating a global cross-border threat can be".

He said: "Climate change and biodiversity loss are no different, they pose an even greater existential threat, to the extent we have to put ourselves on what might be called a war-like footing."

"You do not need me to tell you the eyes and hopes of the world are upon you to act with all dispatch and decisively, because time has run out."

Cohen insisted that activists did not want to cause offence by protesting during a period of national mourning.

"It's not disrespectful. This is an act of care and love, being here," she said.

At one point during the sit-in, protesters were heckled by a local businessman who owns a tanker firm. The man urged police to arrest the activists, prompting one to reply: "We're doing this for you and your kids."

News Queen Elizabeth II

Duke who dedicated 20 years to

Daniel Brittain Parliamentary Historian

The long House of Lords corridors were eerily quiet this week. With parliament adjourned until after the Queen's funeral and most staff working at home, the building seemed subdued.

I looked in at Black Rod's extremely cramped outer office to wish all the best to a friend who has been working on the arrangements for the lying in state, but was met with the kind of look which said: "It would be really helpful if you went away right now."

However, a familiar figure was sitting thoughtfully by the window, reading through an enormous sheaf of notes. It was the 18th Duke of Norfolk, earl marshal of England and the man responsible for organising the Queen's lying in state and funeral. His ancestors have held the post continuously since 1672, and the coronation next year will also be his responsibility.



The earl marshal will not be paid for his 20 years' work on the royal funeral

We have met a few times at rehearsals for state openings of parliament, his most regular responsibility. "Afternoon, earl marshal," I said. He looked up immediately: "Oh, Daniel, you know perfectly well it's Eddie." Despite all that is going on, he was his usual amiable and amusing self. He spared me a few minutes before heading off to another rehearsal.

"It's all pretty scary," he said, "but you have to rise to the occasion. I have an incredible team, but the buck stops with me." He succeeded his father, Miles, in 2002, having deputised for him in his last two years. His father had said: "I organised the crossing of the Rhine [in the Second World War] in 24 hours — the Queen's funeral will be a piece of cake."

Fearing it might not be quite that simple, the earl marshal started planning for this week upon his father's death. "We had annual meetings in the throne room of Buckingham Palace. It

started off with 20 people; by April this year it had reached 280. I have had a lot of help from Buckingham Palace staff," he explained. For the first ten years he worked closely with Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Mather, a long-serving member of the royal household, who commanded the bearer party at Churchill's funeral, the last time we had a state funeral. His present staff officer is Major Andrew Chatburn.

For the duke, the obvious starting point was to look at George VI's funeral, "but that was 70 years ago. I've always been very conscious that ceremonial needs to move with the times." For that reason, for the first time in 200 years the state funeral will be in Westminster Abbey. "We can get 2,000 people in the Abbey." It then moves to St George's Chapel, Windsor, for the committal service, allowing another 800 to attend.

Another change has been to plan an extra day for the lying in state, giving four full days and nights with a little extra at either end. "It's the maximum time I could manage within the schedule — it should allow an additional 85,000 people to file past the coffin."

Some have expressed disappointment that the Queen's journey from Edinburgh to London was not by train, allowing people to bid farewell at stations and along the line. "In the end the security concerns just made it impossible. If the train had come to a halt there was no reliable contingency plan."

Yesterday's event, moving the Queen's coffin from Buckingham Palace "went off faultlessly. It was incredibly moving to be in Westminster Hall on such an historic occasion," he said.

With that accomplished, the duke's thoughts will turn to Monday's funeral and a full rehearsal. After the funeral, he has to get to Windsor before the coffin. "I'll be going down the M4 to overtake it so everything should work out fine."

By the end of Monday the duke will no doubt breathe a sigh of relief, but might he also allow himself a sense of pride in the successful culmination of 20 years of planning? He will not be paid for his work, though. "I am determined not to charge the state a penny for my work as earl marshal."



Crowds watched the Queen's cortège on a huge screen in Hyde Park as it made its way from Buckingham Palace down The Mall to Westminster Hall, while Big Ben tolled. Others had a vantage point from a window at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, or perched on telephone boxes for a better view



Rare appearance for empress of Japan

Catherine Philp
Diplomatic Correspondent
Richard Lloyd Parry, Amrit Dhillon

Emperor Naruhito of Japan will be accompanied by Empress Masako when he attends the Queen's funeral, it was confirmed yesterday.

It will be the empress's most important international appearance since she largely retreated from public view two decades ago and was treated for depression. It will be the couple's first foreign trip since Naruhito succeeded to the Chrysanthemum Throne on the abdication of his father, Emperor Akihito, in 2019.

Britain has also invited a representative from North Korea to attend. The invitation would be at an ambassadorial level, as is the case with Iran.

Syria and Venezuela will not be invited because Britain does not have diplomatic relations with those states. Afghanistan was not invited to send a representative because of the political situation.

Dignitaries from Russia, Myanmar

Droupadi Murmu of India, Princess Charlene of Monaco and Empress Masako of Japan



and Belarus have also not been asked to attend.

The deadline for RSVPs expires today. Heads of states or other dignitaries unable to attend can delegate their invitation to a named representative.

Most countries will be permitted to send only their head of state plus one, typically a spouse. Realms — those Commonwealth countries that have the British monarch as their head of state — have the most generous allowances, with room in each case for the

governor-general, prime minister and London high commissioners, and their respective spouses. Realms are also permitted to distribute a further ten invitations.

All holders of the George Cross and Victoria Cross have been invited.

President Biden and his wife, and the presidents of France, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Brazil and Israel will be travelling to London for the funeral.

President Murmu of India, 64, the first woman to hold that office, will also attend. Elected less than two months ago, Murmu comes from humble origins in a village in Odisha. With great difficulty she managed to become a teacher and then gradually entered local politics. Her background prompted her to say, on her inauguration, that her election "is proof that the poor can dream".

Royalty will be represented by King Philippe and Queen Mathilde of Belgium, King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden, King Harald and Queen Sonja of Norway, King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands, Grand Duke Henri and Grand Duchess Maria Teresa of Luxembourg, and Prince Albert and Princess Charlene of Monaco.

Spanish anger at presence of 'criminal' Juan Carlos

Simon Hunter Madrid

The junior party in Spain's coalition government has waded into a row over the decision by the former king, Juan Carlos, to attend the Queen's funeral.

"Inviting an on-the-run criminal to a state funeral shows you just what the monarchy is, in the UK and in Spain," Pablo Echenique, a spokesman for the left-wing Unidas Podemos party, said at a press conference on Tuesday.

Juan Carlos has lived in self-imposed exile in Abu Dhabi since August 2020 after a series of scandals over his finances. He abdicated in 2014 after a public outcry over his marital infidelities.

Patxi López, spokesman for the Socialist Party, the senior coalition party, chose to "avoid commenting on personal decisions" by the self-styled emeritus king, but did ask "whether the royal household will be very happy with this decision".

According to sources cited by the Spanish newspaper *El País*, Juan Carlos, 84, will go directly to London, where he will stay for only 24 hours. He is reported to have confirmed that he has organised his own travel and has a

return ticket on a commercial flight. There had been speculation that the state, or the royal household, might pay. *El País* added, however, that he had not ruled out using a private jet belonging to the Abu Dhabi royal family.

Felipe VI, 54, has been trying for years to keep a distance between his father and the rest of the royal family. On Monday it was confirmed that Felipe, his wife Queen Letizia, 49, Juan Carlos and his estranged wife Queen Sofia, 83, would all be among the 500 dignitaries in London for the funeral.

It is not clear whether the protocol means that Felipe will be with his father at the ceremony, and the Spanish royal household has said only that it will follow the organisers' instructions. It is understood, however, that Juan Carlos will not be seated next to Sofia, a distant cousin of Queen Elizabeth II.

Juan Carlos has visited Spain only once since he left. In May he made a trip to a sailing regatta in Galicia, but the media circus did not go down well with the royal household. Juan Carlos has not floated another return, and has stayed out of the headlines, but that changed with the Queen's death.

planning funeral fit for a queen

CHARLES KNIGHT/SHUTTERSTOCK; JAMES KENT/STORY PICTURE AGENCY; JUSTIN TALLIS/AFP



Truss set to meet Biden in private

Oliver Wright Policy Editor

Liz Truss is expected to hold one-to-one talks with President Biden and other world leaders gathered in London ahead of the Queen's funeral on Monday.

Downing Street and the Foreign Office have been keen to stress that the event would not be used as a diplomatic exercise, despite the presence of more than 100 heads of state in the capital to pay their respects.

But yesterday it emerged that the new prime minister would use the occasion to hold a small number of bilateral meetings with key allies over the weekend.

However, because of the circumstances, the leaders will not pose for photographs or take part in any formal press conferences. No information about what they discuss will be released.

It is thought that among other leaders, Truss will meet Biden for the first time since she became prime minister. Before the Queen's death, Downing Street had hoped to use next week's meeting of the UN General Assembly in New York to add on a trip to the White House for their official talks.

But the Queen's funeral on Monday has thrown the planned schedule off-course and those talks are now likely to take place in London.

Truss may also meet President Macron of France when he is in London for the funeral, as well as other key UK allies such as Anthony Albanese, the Australian leader, and Justin Trudeau, the Canadian prime minister.

However, other world leaders such as Narendra Modi, the Indian prime minister, and Olaf Scholz, the German chancellor, are not expected to come as they are not formal heads of state.

Downing Street has not confirmed any meetings but several government

sources have indicated that they would go ahead.

"They will primarily be about paying their respects and will be low key," said one source.

Monday's funeral, and the ten days of mourning that precedes it, has forced Truss and her new administration to hastily reschedule a series of announcements that had been planned for this week and next.

It is still unclear when parliament will return after the funeral on Monday and it may not be until Thursday before the Commons returns to normal.

A number of MPs are understood to want to swear allegiance to the new King and this is expected to take place on Wednesday.

On Thursday the new health secretary, Thérèse Coffey, is expected to make a statement on the NHS and then, most likely on Friday, the new chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng will unveil what the government describes as a "fiscal event", which is likely to include plans to reverse April's national insurance rise and freeze corporation tax.

Parliament had not been due to sit that day as it was supposed to break up on Thursday night for the party conference recess. However, it is now likely to sit on Friday to make time for Kwarteng's statement. MPs are also expected to return earlier to Westminster than had previously been planned.

The Commons was not due to sit again until October 17 but this is now likely to be brought forward one week to October 10.

This will allow time for MPs to pass emergency legislation which the government thinks is necessary to freeze energy bills for businesses, as well as passing the legislation that will be associated with the financial statement.

Firms may only get bills help in November, page 16

TMS

diary@thetimes.co.uk | @timesdiary

And one's band played on ...

Seventy years ago, all sports were cancelled on the death of George VI, bar one. Four FA Cup matches were played just 12 hours after the King was found dead, with a full league programme at the weekend. The FA called it a "simple and sincere tribute" to its patron. Last weekend most sports went ahead, bar one. The FA said it was "disrespectful and despicable" that two non-league sides had disobeyed its blanket ban to play a friendly match. At least the governing body's use of alliteration has stayed consistent.

The Queen was not much of a football fan. "There are no horses," explained David Triesman, former chairman of the FA, "and, try as we might, we could never find a way of involving horses in football." He did, however, get her to a match

at Wembley, which she seemed to enjoy. At the end, Triesman asked the Queen who she thought had played best. "The band of the Scots Guards," she replied.

The King has been criticised by some ungenerous souls for his tetchiness around unruly fountain pens. This is a family trait. When William IV had his first privy council meeting in 1830, he scratched and blotted his way across a document before complaining: "This is a damned bad pen you've given me." Mightier than a sword, some say.

SHUT DOWN

For seven years, General David Leakey had a door slammed in his face whenever he went to summon MPs to hear the Queen. Now he has been given a similar treatment by Sarah Clarke, his successor as Black Rod. Despite running a yearly dress rehearsal for the lying in state (you try getting a catafalque knocked up at short notice), Leakey, above, was not allowed to get an early peek at



how his plans had worked out. "I dropped a hint that I might," he said, "and was told in two short words to join the queue with Joe Public."

For the first 50 years of her reign the Queen had a daily phone conversation with her mother. The chat always began with the Palace switchboard operator deferentially saying: "Your Majesty? Her Majesty, Your Majesty."

MARK OF RESPECT

The Queen met a lot of bishops in 70 years as supreme governor of the Church of England but it took until

2015 before a woman led a diocese. "Long time, no see," as Sir Humphrey Appleby once put it.

When Rachel Treweek first went to pay homage as Bishop of Gloucester, she was told that she should kiss the Queen's Bible, which would be lying on a cushion open at a favourite verse. "I can't possibly do that," she protested. This caused consternation — was there a theological reason? — until Treweek, right, explained she was wearing lipstick and didn't want to mark the page. This was not a problem the Palace had encountered before but they muddled through. "Just tap it with your nose," she was told.

The composer and Radio 3 broadcaster Michael Berkeley served on the committee for the Queen's Medal for Music. He recalled sitting with her during a fiendishly tricky piano piece that was so packed with notes that

the Queen remarked how it would be useful to have three hands. At the end, the soloist stumbled as she returned to the stage to take a bow. "Three feet would be good, too," someone added.

MAUNDY DEFLATION

The value of Maundy money will fall by 21p next year. Since 1931, the King or Queen has had an Easter tradition of giving elderly men and women a purse containing specially minted coins adding up to the monarch's age. Next year that will drop from 95 to 74. Writing in *The Spectator*, Richard Chartres, former Bishop of London, recalled that at one Maundy event the Queen asked a centenarian to what he attributed his great age. "I am a Norwich football club supporter," he told her. "And I only drink alcohol when they win."

PATRICK KIDD



Firms may not get bills help till November

Steven Swinford Political Editor

No 10 has admitted that businesses may have to wait until November for support with their energy bills because of the complexity of the scheme.

The government said that businesses would be offered "equivalent" support to households for at least six months as part of a £150 billion package.

Households will have average energy bills capped at £2,500 a year from October 1 to shield people from the impact of soaring wholesale gas prices.

The prime minister's spokesman said that the business package might be delayed but any support would be backdated. However, a government source said ministers still believed that they could pull together the package for businesses in time for October.

Providing support for businesses is more challenging because there are far more suppliers — over 60 — and there is no equivalent of the energy price cap that exists for households.

The prime minister's official spokesman told reporters: "We will confirm further details of the business support scheme next week. The scheme will support businesses with their October energy bills and that includes through backdating if necessary."

The scheme could require new legislation, but Downing Street said that was still being "worked through".

The government is expected to announce more details about its plan for businesses next week, after the funeral for Queen Elizabeth II.

The government said that any delay

was not caused by the death of the monarch but by the challenge of devising a scheme from scratch.

"We're having to build a brand new system to deliver this support, rather than using the existing one," the spokesman said.

Business groups yesterday said they urgently needed to know more about the government's promise that it would help them with bills.

The Food and Drink Federation said that the support, announced last week, "is very welcome", but added that the sector needed urgent talks with ministers to understand its scope.

Emma McClarkin, chief executive of the British Beer and Pub Association, said: "Pubs and brewers will not be able to wait days, let alone months, to get clarity on their energy bills. Many are making decisions now as to whether they will have to close this winter."

"So far all they have is a vague promise from the prime minister for six months of support that is 'equivalent' to what households will get."

"We need urgent clarity on whether this cap will deliver for businesses and help them out of a crisis."

The chief executive of the Food and Drink Federation, Karen Betts, said that her members had been facing a "relentless rise in ingredient, energy and input costs" for two years.

"It's worrying for households because the cost of everyone's shopping is continuing to rise, and for businesses which are struggling to make ends meet amid exponential rises in their costs," she said.

Sharp fall in the price of petrol and diesel pulls inflation back from four-decade high

Mehreen Khan Economics Editor

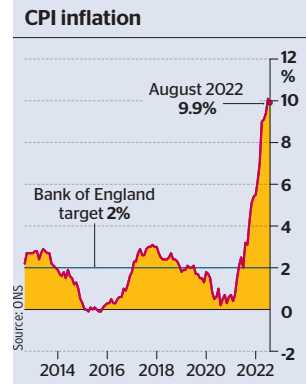
UK inflation registered a surprise fall from a 40-year high in August, its first decline in almost a year, on the back of lower petrol and diesel prices.

Data from the Office for National Statistics showed that annual consumer price inflation fell to 9.9 per cent, down from 10.1 per cent in July, and defied economists' forecasts of another increase to 10.2 per cent. The retail price index, the benchmark linked to rail fares and mobile phone contracts, was unchanged at 12.3 per cent.

A sharp fall in petrol prices of 6.8 per cent between July and August caused the dip in headline inflation, with global oil costs having eased. Food and clothing prices were the biggest contributors to inflation in August, and a measure of core inflation, which strips out energy, rose 10 basis points (bp) to 6.3 per cent. The fall in the headline inflation rate was the first since September last year.

Rising core inflation and growing services inflation, which also rose last month, mean the "Bank of England will have to continue turning the screws" with higher interest rates, according to Paul Dales at Capital Economics.

Economists expect a 50bp increase on September 22, while the money markets are pricing in 75bp. The base



rate is 1.75 per cent at present. The UK has had the worst inflation rates in the developed world this year on the back of surging natural gas prices that have driven up Ofgem's energy price cap.

The figures came a day after a surprise rise in core inflation in the US triggered the worst sell-off on Wall Street since the outset of the pandemic, with the S&P 500 down 4.3 per cent.

The UK emergency measures to freeze energy bills at £2,500 from October and give households a £400 rebate

should help put a ceiling on inflation this year. Economists expect inflation will peak this autumn close to 11 per cent before falling sharply in 2023.

Samuel Tombs, at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said headline inflation could fall to 2 per cent by the end of next year, reaching the Bank's target rate. "This benign medium-term outlook for consumer price inflation should convince the monetary policy committee they do not need to strangle the economy by raising the rate all the way to 4 per cent, as markets anticipate."

Falling inflation should help to ease a cost of living crisis, contain price expectations from households and businesses, and soften a looming recession. Runaway inflation has also eroded consumers' disposable income, causing real wages to drop at their fastest pace since records began.

The UK economy grew less than expected in July, raising concern that a recession could be declared in the third quarter if growth does not pick up.

The severity of a possible recession, forecast to last 15 months by the Bank in its August projections, should be cut by state spending measures. Liz Truss, the prime minister, and Kwasi Kwarteng, the chancellor, are set to announce the cost of the emergency package in a "mini-budget" this month.

a sky original

"Stylish and tense" – The Telegraph

MUNICH GAMES

Trust no one

sky



Whale strike knocks cricketer's son for six

The son of an England cricketer, his young daughters and partner were saved from a sinking boat after they hit a whale in the Atlantic (Will Humphries writes).

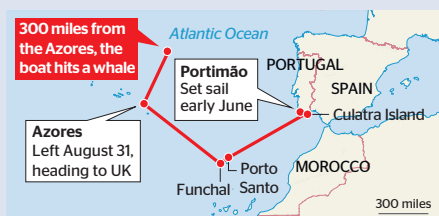
Zachary Small, 33, was heading to the UK with Anua, 8, Willow, 5, and Kim Pelletier Girard, 29, when a whale smashed a hole in their catamaran's hull.

Small, the son of the former England fast bowler Gladstone Small, and Pelletier Girard had to fight to keep the boat afloat long enough for rescuers to arrive, and he had to leave behind

all his possessions, including the ashes of Rosie, his late wife and the mother of his children, who died three years ago from breast cancer.

Small, a carpenter and experienced sailor, had been sailing around the Portuguese coast, Madeira and the Azores since June with his children and partner.

They left the Azores on August 31. On the fourth night Small heard a "massive sound" and the boat suddenly dropped speed. Pelletier Girard, an artist and also an experienced sailor, was catapulted out of bed and water began rushing in. She shouted



for help and when Small arrived the water was at his ankles. Within minutes it was up to their waists. He grabbed a piece of broken wood in the water and when he turned it over "there was a big hunk of whale flesh".

They were 300 miles

from the Azores and 600 miles from Portugal.

Small's children were moved to the safer port hull. He set off the emergency beacon

Zachary Small, son of the England bowler Gladstone, and family on their yacht, which was hit by a whale 300 miles from the Azores

that alerts search and rescue teams, and a VHF distress signal. "There were some morbid and dark moments," Small said. They discussed "the pain we would cause by essentially disappearing and leaving this big unsolvable mystery".

Then at 1am Small saw the lights of a spotter plane. At about 4.30am Small saw a ship's light: "I just finally took a deep breath."

A liquefied natural gas tanker had changed course after being alerted by the Azores coastguard and arrived alongside them at 6.30am. It took them to the Channel, where they were transferred to Falmouth marina. They are living with relatives in Malvern, Worcestershire, and Small hopes one day to return to the sea.



Whiff of espionage about perfumer who emailed herself secret recipes

Jonathan Ames Legal Editor

A junior perfumer was sacked from a leading fragrance house after she appeared to be leaking secret formulas in a case of suspected corporate espionage.

A tribunal was told that Madly Massengo sent a series of messages from her work system at CPL Aromas to a personal email account.

Bosses at the company — which supplies fragrances to Penhaligon's, one of the UK's most traditional perfume houses — discovered that Massengo's emails contained details of materials, formulas and pricing.

Executives were described as having been "horrified" at the leaking of the company's intellectual property and that they had "lost all control" of the confidential information, the employment tribunal was told.

The perfume market was "very competitive" and the main advantage that

fragrance companies hold over their rivals is secrecy over scent formulas and manufacturing costs.

The hearing was told that fragrances can include as many as 50 raw ingredients and that it would have "serious repercussions for the business" if a recipe fell into the hands of competitors.

CPL Aromas, which is based in Hertfordshire and last year celebrated its 50th anniversary, said its confidential information was "tightly safeguarded".

When Massengo, 41, a French perfumer with a master's degree in chemistry, engineering, aromatics and perfumery, was questioned by company bosses, she claimed that she sent emails to her personal account to enable her to work from home.

She was sacked for gross misconduct, however, and then sued the firm for age discrimination and wrongful and unfair dismissal. The tribunal in east London rejected all her allegations.

Massengo started work as a trainee

perfumer at CPL Aromas in 2017 and was later offered a permanent role in the perfumery department, subject to completing a training programme that was set to finish in 2019.

Massengo worked at the company's headquarters in Bishop's Stortford, and her boss, Alexandra Kosinski, told her that she was concerned about her attitude. Kosinski cited examples where Massengo had refused to accept negative criticism.

Massengo told the tribunal that she had been deemed to be "inflexible" or "more likely to stand up for herself" because she was the only perfumer on the programme older than 30.

When Massengo failed to complete the training programme, she was offered a role as a quality-control technician, which she rejected.

Later that month, as Massengo continued in her trainee role, an automated alert revealed that two emails containing meeting invitations had been sent

from her work account to her private email address, which was considered a breach of security.

Massengo was immediately suspended and an investigation concluded that her conduct had been "suspicious". She had emailed "sensitive, confidential" information to herself, including details of the company's formulas and prices.

Dismissing Massengo's claims against the company, Catrin Lewis, the tribunal judge, said that the reason Massengo was not offered the role of junior perfumer was because "she had not performed well enough over the course of the training programme".

The judge added that it was "within the range of reasonable responses" for executives at CPL Aromas to conclude that Massengo's deletion of some of her sent emails was "evidence that she knew what she was doing was wrong and was attempting to cover her tracks".

Robot learns to take the metal mickey

Rhys Blakely Science Correspondent

Computer scientists are working on one of their toughest challenges yet: a robot that can laugh at a human's poor-quality jokes.

A team of Japanese researchers is developing a machine capable of laughing appropriately while chatting to a human — to know when the suitable response is a polite chuckle or a full-on guffaw. The scientists hope that their prototype, Erica, will make conversations between humans and computers more natural.

"We think that one of the important functions of conversational artificial intelligence is empathy," said Koji Inoue, of Kyoto University, who led the study reported in the journal *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*. "Conversation is not just [about] responding correctly. So we decided that one way a robot can empathise with users is to share their laughter, which you cannot do with a text-based chatbot."

The team has taught Erica to detect laughter. Once it has done so, it can decide whether to laugh in response and try to determine what kind of laughter would be best. The scientists said yesterday that Erica has made promising progress but humour remains a daunting challenge.

Inoue said: "Robots should actually have a distinct character, and we think they can show this through their conversational behaviours, such as laughing, eye gaze, gestures and speaking style."

"We do not think this is an easy problem at all, and it may well take more than 10 to 20 years before we can finally have a casual chat with a robot like we would with a friend."

Millionaire's son faces arrest for ignoring work order

Will Humphries
Southwest Correspondent

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of a millionaire's son after he completed only 27 of his 200 hours of community service imposed for a drunken fracas at a yacht club.

Oliver George, now 29, was sentenced in 2019, after a court delayed a hearing so he could go on holiday to Barbados. He was given a community order to carry out 200 hours of unpaid

work as punishment for terrorising a barman with a fake gun.

Three years on he has performed just 27 hours and 15 minutes.

Magistrates in Poole were told that George's last contact with the probation service had been in February last year. He was told to report to them by telephone but did not "attend" two meetings in July and August this year. A summons was sent to his address to tell him that the matter was going back to court because he had failed to comply.

George did not show up for the hearing and magistrates had no choice but to issue a warrant for his arrest.

George, son of the market owner Brendan George, got so drunk at Sandbanks Yacht Club in Poole, Dorset, in September 2019 that bar staff refused to serve him any more prosecco.

He became angry and lifted his cardigan to show the barman the handle of what turned out to be a toy pistol tucked into the waistband of his shorts.

He admitted possessing an imitation

firearm in a public place but asked for his sentencing to be postponed for two months for a booked holiday to Barbados. On his return he was given the community order and told to pay an £85 fine and £400 compensation.

The probation service told the magistrates that George's last contact was in February 2021, when he asked for an update on an attempt to extend the deadline for his unpaid work.

Dorset police confirmed the warrant and said that inquiries were ongoing.



Wide-eyed A woman holds up a wood carving at the Tribal Art London event, which brings together 20 exhibitors at The Mall Galleries after two years of online shows

Gangs pack 50 migrants to a boat

Matt Dathan Home Affairs Editor

People smugglers packed in almost 50 migrants per boat on Tuesday as the annual total exceeded 29,000 for the first time.

Figures from the Ministry of Defence showed that 538 migrants crossed the Channel in 11 boats — an average of 49 per boat, which is one of the highest averages yet recorded.

Border Force vessels and RNLI lifeboats were sent out on continuous rescue missions throughout Tuesday to intercept the boats. Most were brought into Dover, while some came in at Ramsgate 20 miles along the Kent coast. The MoD said that all boats in the Channel were intercepted, with no reports of “uncontrolled” landings.

The crossings took the total number

to arrive in small boats this year to 29,099, already exceeding last year’s record of 28,526. Internal Home Office forecasts have predicted that the total for 2022 could more than double, hitting as high as 65,000.

Natalie Elphicke, the Conservative MP for Dover, said immediate action was needed to halt the crossings or there was a risk of a repeat of last November’s tragedy when 27 migrants drowned while attempting the 21-mile journey from Calais. “The numbers of arrivals are deeply concerning,” she said. “It’s vital to see the small boats crisis brought to an end as the seas will become colder and rougher as we head into autumn and winter. Action is needed now to avoid further tragic loss of life on the English Channel.”

A new monthly record was set in

August with 8,644 migrants crossing the Channel; Albanians made up 40 to 60 per cent of them.

On August 22 there was the highest daily total on record, with 1,295 people crossing in 27 boats.

Some of this week’s crossings have been driven by Albanian people-smugglers exploiting the Queen’s funeral to target more business, with adverts on the video-sharing platform TikTok offering half-price deals of £1,600 per person for those who travel before Monday. One post bore a picture of the Queen dressed in purple with a caption urging people to make the journey soon if they “want to take part in the funeral of this lady”.

Refugee charities said that the figures showed that the government’s headline policies were doing “nothing”

to deter the crossings and urged the government to focus on repairing relations with France.

Enver Solomon, the chief executive of the Refugee Council, said: “With record numbers of people crossing the channel this year, we are seeing how the government’s policies enshrined in the recent Nationality and Borders Act and their Rwanda deal are doing absolutely nothing to deter desperate people jumping on boats because they do nothing to address the reasons people come.”

“Let’s not forget the men, women and children coming across the Channel are fleeing atrocities like those in Ukraine and Afghanistan. No one risks their own or family’s life unless they are running from dangers more acute than they face on these journeys.”

Quintagram® No 1421

Solve all five clues using each letter underneath once only

1 Ceremonial table (5)

2 Provide with an income (5)

3 British composer (1862-1934) (6)

4 Daring adventure (8)

5 Official emblem (8)

A	A	A	A	A	C	D	D
D	E	E	E	E	G	I	I
I	I	L	L	N	N	N	O
P	R	S	S	S	T	U	W

Solutions MindGames in Times2
Cryptic clues page 10 of Times2

‘End of Covid in sight’

The end of the pandemic is in sight, the head of the World Health Organisation has said. Weekly deaths from the virus worldwide are at their lowest since March 2020. In the UK a total of 944,700 people in private households were estimated to have had coronavirus in the week to August 28, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Police to boycott Mind

Police officers said they would boycott the mental health charity Mind after it linked the fatal shooting of Chris Kaba, 24, in southwest London, the subject of an inquiry, to other black men who “die disproportionately at the hands of police”. Mind said events like Kaba’s death were “incredibly triggering”.

Marathon gender shift

Entrants for next year’s TCS London Marathon will be able to identify themselves as non-binary for the first time in their ballot application. The elite races, and the championship and good-for-age categories, which operate under World Athletics rules, will not offer a non-binary option. The event takes place on April 23.

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Sex claims at Cambridge ‘mishandled’

Nicola Woolcock Education Editor

A report on a Cambridge college at the centre of sexual assault claims has called for institutional change after concluding it had cultural problems.

Gemma White KC led an investigation into the handling of accusations at Trinity Hall. These included sexual misconduct allegations dating back to 2005 against a fellow who was eventually banned from having contact with students, and sexual assault claims against a male student.

The report suggested that Jeremy Morris, who resigned as master of the college last year, had mishandled one of the cases and questioned his suitability to continue. White said she had decided before his resignation to recommend the governing body consider taking disciplinary action and had written such in a draft of the report.

Mary Hockaday, former director of the BBC World Service, takes over as master next month.

The report praised Morris for being supportive of some “survivors of sexual violence”. It added, however: “He had been in possession of information about conduct which, if substantiated, would constitute a serious abuse of position on the part of a fellow of the college. In my judgment, his failure to act appropriately on that information called into question his suitability to continue as master.”

Evidence was submitted about a “male-dominated culture” in which some fellows deemed sexist language acceptable. White said some students had been hesitant to complain about “lower-level” concerns involving academic supervisors. “I was provided with examples of what were described as ‘casually sexist comments,’” she said.

“One of the key themes which emerged from evidence was the college requirement for a formal complaint before action would be taken.

“Since many students will not wish to

formally complain, particularly about ‘lower level’ issues, the failure to take action without a formal complaint contributes to a culture in which lower level sexual misconduct (such as sexist language) is understood to be tolerated.

“If addressed, and stopped, at an early stage the more serious effects of sustained sexual harassment can be avoided.”

Views held by some that action could not be taken in the absence of a formal complaint were wrong, she said.

She added: “A failure to take any action contributes to an institutional environment in which such behaviour is known to be tolerated. Current and future college leadership must embrace a more proactive approach ... It is important to focus on developing an institutional culture in which sexual misconduct is not tolerated.”

White said many higher education institutions had much work to do in this particular area.

In a statement, Morris acknowledged his handling of one allegation was “not as thorough as it ought to have been” and apologised for distress caused. He said: “The last two and a half years will have been stressful for all concerned in the allegations raised there. I have never doubted their seriousness, nor sought to minimise or marginalise them.

“I also welcome many of the findings and recommendations. I supported the proposal to have an external investigation, as I was well aware of the distress these matters had caused to those involved in them.”

The college said that its governing body welcomed the report’s “thoroughness, range and detail”. It said in a statement: “The college has been working towards improving its internal processes and its institutional structures since before the inquiry report was received. The governing body is committed to taking action in response to Ms White’s findings.”

Comfortable fashion is Kors for rejoicing

Anna Murphy
FASHION DIRECTOR

No designer is better at squaring the circle that is luxury fashion than Michael Kors. His latest show in New York was a reminder that his clothes evoke a fantastical life of black-tie dinners and parties on yachts, yet they are also easy to wear and simply cut, in fabrics that feel as fabulous as they look.

High-class nonchalance is Kors’s default, as epitomised for next season by a turquoise deep V-neck cashmere knit paired with a sequinned skirt slashed to the thigh or an outsize sleeveless cream trouser suit, worn over a midriff-exposing polo neck.

The brand also exudes a suave Americanness, redolent of the Upper East Side and the Hamptons. Luckily for Kors the American dream remains covetable around the world.

His clothes may be the stuff of fantasy for most of us but they work well in the realm that is inhabited by the 0.1 per cent. Comfort — once a dirty word in luxury — is king these days, whatever your

budget. The rich want easy to wear clothes too, though that stomach reveal — something of a theme throughout the collection — might mean they have to lay off the French toast.

Wearability in a format that looks and feels special is the designer’s genius. These clothes may not get the fashion avant garde excited. There is nothing difficult or edgy here. Yet Kors makes the “timelessness” he spoke about at a press conference before the show feel current.

Part of this is down to his eye for colour, which encompassed fire-hydrant red and acid green. Some of it is down to his ability to recalibrate how cool kids dress in the street for the woman who resides in another realm.

Kors may have referred to the giant belt buckles as “sculptural jewellery” but to my mind they were evocative of the clips that adorn backpacks in the hipster environs of London and New York. As for a stealth chic grey ensemble, the vast trousers were of skater proportions, and the bodysuit channelled the “pelvis peekaboo” trend seen on celebrities such as Gigi Hadid or Dua Lipa.

Cool nonchalance was epitomised by a deep V-neck cashmere knit with a sequinned skirt, an elegant white suit slashed to the thigh and a fire-hydrant red gown suitable for a party on a yacht while being easy to wear. Michael Kors retains a casual Americanness that is covetable globally



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Bankers' bonus cap could be scrapped

Robert Miller

The chancellor might scrap the cap on bankers' bonuses to increase London's competitiveness against its financial rivals New York, Frankfurt, Hong Kong and Paris.

Kwasi Kwarteng is said to be considering the move as a sign of his new "Big Bang 2.0" approach to City regulations after Brexit.

The *Financial Times* reported that although no final decisions had been taken, people close to the chancellor's thinking said that he wanted to scrap the cap that was introduced by EU legislation in 2014.

The UK has long opposed the bonus cap, which limits annual payouts to twice a banker's salary.

If a bank wanted to pay one of its employees in London £3 million for their work over the past 12 months, it would need to pay that person a salary of at least £1 million.

Liz Truss has previously called the City "the jewel in the crown" of the economy. One executive in the financial sector said that getting rid of the bonus cap would be a "clear Brexit dividend".

He added it was something that could be presented "as a win" by the prime minister, who backed the Remain campaign during the referendum but has since become an ardent Brexiteer.

American investment banks in London have been particularly critical

of the bonus limit. Wall Street generally includes large elements of annual performance-related bonuses and lower fixed salaries in its pay packages. Goldman Sachs, the multinational investment bank based in New York, has been one of the most outspoken opponents of the cap.

Richard Gnodde, head of the bank's international operations, said that eliminating the limit would make London a more attractive place.

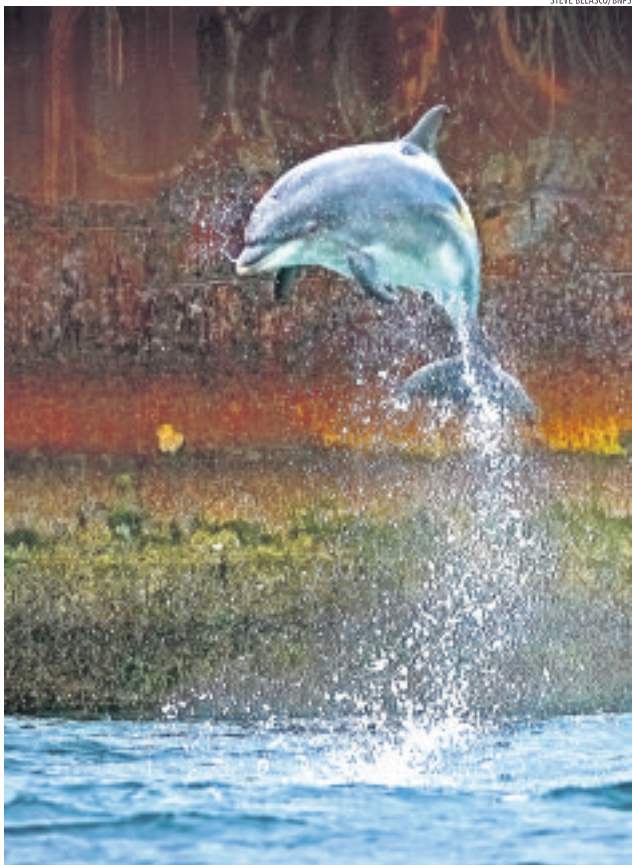
He said that under the present system, "if I move a senior person between New York and London, I am driving up the fixed cost of our operations". He added: "If that rule doesn't exist, I don't have to think about that."

Boris Johnson did not move to scrap the cap when prime minister, fearing a political backlash. Kwarteng told City executives last week: "We need to be decisive and do things differently."

When the idea was floated in June Sir Keir Starmer, the Labour leader, described it as "pay rises for bankers, pay cuts for district nurses".

The cap has been privately dismissed by watchdogs at the Bank of England's Prudential Regulation Authority as a "blunt instrument" to control excess and align bankers' pay with their performance and risks they take.

Other UK rules make executives liable for a fine, ban or prison for failings on their watch. Bonus payments can be withheld or recovered as punishment under clawback provisions.



Playing tribute A pair of bottlenose dolphins called Wills and Harry put on a show of acrobatics beside the Queen's Pier in Portland Harbour, Dorset

Multivitamin a day may ward off dementia

A daily multivitamin tablet helps keep people over the age of 65 mentally sharp and may also protect against dementia, according to a study.

Researchers estimated that taking a pill daily for three years meant roughly a 60 per cent slowing of cognitive decline, equating to nearly two years.

The American study also showed that daily use of a cocoa extract supplement does not benefit the brain.

There are about 900,000 people with dementia in Britain and the number is projected to rise to 1.6 million by 2040.

Professor Laura Baker, the joint lead investigator of the report, said: "There's an urgent need for safe and affordable interventions to protect cognition against decline in older adults."

The COcoa Supplement and Multivitamin Outcomes Study for the Mind was an ancillary study to the COSMOS trial led by Brigham and Women's Hospital, in Massachusetts, involving 21,000 men and women in America.

The study investigated whether taking a daily cocoa extract supplement or a daily multivitamin-mineral supplement reduces the risk of developing heart disease, stroke, cancer and other health outcomes.

Baker, of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, said: "This is the first evidence of cognitive benefit in a large longer-term study of multivitamin supplementation in older adults."

The findings were published in the journal *Alzheimer's & Dementia*.

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Developer fined £50k for axing ancient oaks

Will Humphries
Southwest Correspondent

A property developer must pay more than £67,000 after cutting down dozens of protected, 100-year-old oak trees in defiance of neighbours' pleas.

James Barney, 35, proposed building two holiday cottages on the plot he had recently bought, a court was told.

People protested angrily when they were woken by the sound of diggers. They told him the trees in the woodland at Scorey's Copse, Horton Heath, in Hampshire had a protection order.

The order meant cutting, damaging

or destroying the trees was prohibited without the local planning authority's written consent.

Barney, who lives with his parents in nearby Bursledon, said he did not know of the tree protection order (TPO) when he had them cut down. He said that he "didn't believe" anyone who told him otherwise.

Barney was fined £50,000 and ordered to pay £17,841 in legal costs after he admitted breaching tree preservation regulations. It is the largest fine yet issued by Eastleigh borough council.

He must also plant 650 new trees after being handed a replacement

notice by the council. Edmund Robb, for the prosecution, told Southampton magistrates court: "On April 10 last year a neighbour came downstairs and heard a great deal of noise and saw a digger being offloaded."

The court was told several people saw the digger start felling trees. A local councillor explained that the work should be stopped immediately but Barney continued regardless.

The court was shown a video of the scale of destruction and the contracted workers refusing to stop before building a bonfire of the wood.

"Mr Barney had plans for the site —



James Barney was ordered to plant 650 new trees

tion he "didn't believe" anyone until he was sent the TPO on April 13 and the work subsequently stopped.

"I would suggest he was a man who was belligerent in wanting to be shown a copy of the TPO," Stemp said.

District Judge Peter Greenfield said about half the copse had been cleared. It "seemed a mission" to "see how much could be cleared until the building work was stopped", he said.

Paul Holmes, the Tory member for Eastleigh, said Barney's actions were "unacceptable". He added: "Now it is essential the site can be restored fully to how it was before."



The cost of running an oil or gas Aga is about double that of an electric model

Aga lovers undergo an electric conversion

Households are rushing to convert their gas or oil-powered Agas to electric because of the soaring cost of energy (Andrew Ellison writes).

Even before the next energy price rise in October, the cost of running a gas-fired Aga can be nearly £10 a day and oil powered ones are even more expensive. Electric Agas cost about half as much.

There are about half a million Agas in the UK and about half of these are thought to run on gas or oil.

They were originally designed in Sweden and are made in Telford. A Facebook group called "I love my Aga!" has 16,800 members. One of the most popular discussions at the moment is how best to save energy while running the ovens.

Blake and Bull, the independent Aga maintenance and repair business in Bath, is converting between 100 and 200 per cent more Agas to electric this summer than last year.

Matthew Bates, 41, the owner of Blake and Bull, says conversions now account for more than half of his company's business. He said: "We're busier than ever and it's down to energy costs."

The cost of running Agas is also encouraging some

households to remove the ovens.

Jack O'Dwyer, an oven remover based in Blackpool, has taken out 35 Agas this year. He told Bloomberg: "£70 a week [running cost] is outrageous for a cooker."

The cheapest electric Aga starts at £10,200 but converting one to electric starts at about £3,500.

The cost of removing an Aga starts at about £500 to many thousands for those that also provide hot water and central heating.

One homeowner said: "My energy bill is more than £4,000 a year if I don't get rid of it, but the cost of replacing the system is more than double that so there is no cheap way to bring my bills down."

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Scandal-hit charity puts £8m Lowry up for sale

One of LS Lowry's most cherished paintings is to be sold for up to £8 million by a football charity sanctioned for mismanaging its multimillion-pound income (David Sanderson writes). *Going to the*

Match was bought by the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) for £1.9 million in 1999.

The 1953 painting of a large crowd at Bolton Wanderers' old stadium, Burnden Park, is one of the most renowned in the artist's sporting oeuvre and had been on long-term loan to the Lowry arts centre in Salford.

The artwork will now be sold by the Players Foundation, formerly the association's charitable arm. The foundation, which holds assets worth nearly £60 million, said it



Going to the Match was painted in 1953 and shows crowds around Burnden Park, the former stadium of Bolton Wanderers

"no longer has any income guaranteed" and was selling the artwork to help "continue to provide ... benevolent grants to those in real financial need, and assist people with dementia".

The Charity Commission gave the PFA an official warning this month, saying there had been a "failure to appropriately manage

and control £1.9 million of charitable funds that had been transferred out of the charity's accounts".

Christie's will sell *Going to the Match* on October 19 in London. The record for a Lowry is £5.6 million, paid for *The Football Match* in May 2011 and *Piccadilly Circus* six months later. Nick Orchard, of Christie's, said Lowry, who died in 1976 aged 88, allowed "people within the crowd to articulate the event itself. There is no greater example of this than *Going to the Match*."

Pre-teens 'lose a night's sleep per week to screens'

Rhys Blakely Science Correspondent

Many ten-year-olds could be missing out on the equivalent of a night's sleep each week because of excessive social media use, research suggests.

Roughly 70 per cent of the children involved in a study said that they used social media for four hours or more a day, with most saying this included the two hours just before bedtime.

About 13 per cent admitted that they frequently checked their apps "in the middle of the night or after I should be asleep", with TikTok, YouTube and Snapchat being the most popular.

Those who logged on to social media more often were found to have worse sleep overall, with researchers suggesting that many could be losing out on 8-9 hours a week.

The blue light emitted by mobile phones and other devices is thought to interrupt sleep rhythms, the researchers said. They also found a link between social media use and heightened anxiety, which may have an impact on rest.

"It is quite terrifying when you think about the level of engagement," said Dr John Shaw, of De Montfort University, Leicester, who oversaw the work.

The pilot study was relatively small, involving 60 children living in Leicester. The researchers believe it is the first research of its kind to look in depth at how sites such as TikTok and Instagram may be affecting the emotions and sleep of pre-teens.

Most of the children said that they were driven to use social media by a

"fear of missing out" on what was happening among their peers.

The results suggest that social media use is almost ubiquitous among ten-year-olds. Every one of the participants in the study had access to social media, yet they were below the minimum age limit of 13 set by most sites.

Primary school children should be getting roughly 9-11 hours sleep each night, Shaw said. Only two of the children in the study received the recommended minimum amount. "The knock-on side effects of [their social media use] is that they're not getting sufficient sleep," he said. The findings were presented yesterday at the British Science Festival in Leicester.

Shaw said his team wanted to recruit children who are not often online in order to compare sleep patterns: "We're trying to find kids who are not on social media, but we're really struggling."

He added: "It's important to establish sleep routines. I get off my phone an hour before bedtime. If I do have to go on it, I've got a blue-light filter."

Shaw said it was important for parents to set an example. "It's all well and good telling [a child] to be off their phone. But if the parent is saying that while on their phone or on social media, they're not going to listen to you."

A report by the media regulator Ofcom has found that a majority of children under 13 had their own profile on at least one social media app. It said that 99 per cent of children went online in 2021, with 72 per cent using a mobile phone and 69 per cent a tablet.

Ire over Tesco's self-service drive

Andrew Ellison
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Tesco is facing a backlash from customers as it introduces more self-service checkouts across its stores.

Britain's biggest supermarket chain has been the target of angry comments on social media and an online petition with nearly a quarter of a million signatures demanding that it "stop the replacement of people by machines".

The scale of the opposition was clear at the Bradley Stoke store in Bristol when a technical fault closed all but one of the manned checkouts. Many customers chose to queue rather than use the self-service checkouts. A video

on Twitter showed a queue of more than 20 people. The video was shared only days after Tesco confirmed that larger self-service checkouts would be introduced at the store as part of an expansion across the chain.

Pat McCarthy, 69, has set up a Change.org petition arguing that the machines are "not accessible for people who don't have credit cards and can only use cash, or those with little confidence ... People such as carers, older people, many disabled people."

Yesterday evening the petition had more than 236,000 signatures.

Tesco said staff would always be on hand to help with self-service tills and that it would have manned checkouts.

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Focus on this: your
attention span is just fine

James Marriott

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Comment

Why Zelensky is the Lincoln of our times

His 'without you' message to Russia echoes the Gettysburg Address and questions our own willingness to make sacrifices

David
Aaronovitch



@DAARONOVITCH

On Sunday, while we in Britain were thinking about other things, the president of Ukraine addressed the Russians. Distracted myself, it took me a day or so to catch up with what Volodymyr Zelensky said as the Ukrainian offensive gained momentum and — almost more important — how he said it. And though you may think I exaggerate, I thought his words were a Gettysburg Address for our times: a poetic, defiant and defining sentiment which deserves to be repeated and remembered in decades to come.

Since he delivered but 115 words, I can repeat them here in full: "Do you still think," he demanded of President Putin and his invaders, "that we (Ukraine and Russia) are 'one nation'? Do you still think you can scare us, break us, force us to make concessions? Have you really not understood anything? Not understood who we are? What we are for? What we are talking about?"

And then he explained who the Ukrainians are. "Read my lips: Without gas and without you? Without water and without you? Without you. Without food and without you? Without you. Cold, hunger, darkness and thirst are not as frightening and deadly for us as your 'friendship and brotherhood'. But history will put everything in its place. And we will be with gas, light, water and food ... and without you!"

Like Lincoln's short speech (only twice as long), and posted on social media rather than spoken, Zelensky's words came in the wake of a significant victory but long before the outcome of the war is in any way settled. The battle of Gettysburg had been won by the Union in July 1863 and Lincoln's speech was delivered on the battlefield four months later.

But even in 1864 the costs of the war meant that Lincoln feared electoral defeat at the hands of those who wished to conclude a treaty with the Confederacy. The Address had been an attempt to define the necessity for the struggle, and it endures through the ages.

Of course, Zelensky's post was not spoken, was not laden with the semi-classical language which Lincoln deployed so memorably. It is much simpler. But just like Lincoln's speech it defines the issue at hand: whether a nation in the shadow of a mighty and antagonistic power has not just

It is in every way a counterpoint to Putin's bullying TV address

the right, but the will to survive.

It was in every way a counterpoint to the bullying television address by Vladimir Putin last February that gave his justification for trying to extinguish Ukraine's independence. On February 21 Putin had launched into a long historical ramble, the upshot of which was that his Communist predecessors had made a criminal error in allowing autonomy to Ukraine. He told those Ukrainians ungratefully pulling down statues of Lenin, "You want decommunisation? Very well. We are ready to show what real decommunisation would mean for Ukraine."

Three days later, as the invasion commenced and the bombing with it, Putin reminded the people of Ukraine that all this was being done on their behalf. Their country was "an inalienable part of our own history, culture and spiritual space"; they were "those dearest to us ... relatives, people bound by blood, by family ties".

Some readers will recognise in this the embrace of the abuser, the touch of the rapist who "loves" you. And this was Zelensky's point, made in modern poetry. It was particularly apt as this week Putin's military, defeated for the moment in the northeast, launched attacks against the power and water supplies of Ukrainian cities and towns: "Without power and without you? Without you!"

Formally, Zelensky's post was for the uncomprehending Russians, and it was also, of course, a reminder to his own citizens — should they need it — of why the sacrifices for freedom were noble and necessary.

But it was uncomfortably relevant to us too, in effect asking whether we were prepared to suffer some hardship for the sake of our own and other's liberty. We were, after all, also threatened by Putin in his invasion address. "No matter who tries to stand in our way or create threats for our country and our people," he promised, "they must know that Russia will respond immediately, and the consequences will be such as you have never seen in your entire history. I hope that my words will be heard."

For some in the West his words were heard all too clearly. Since before the invasion there have been influential voices in the democratic world doubting whether the costs of supporting Ukraine were worth it. As recently as two weeks ago, in the US, the influential pro-Republican commentator Tucker Carlson told



It took Lincoln two minutes to deliver the 272-word Gettysburg Address

his large TV audience that sanctions weren't working and that "by any actual reality-based measure, Vladimir Putin is not losing the war in Ukraine ... he is winning the war in Ukraine." The result was high energy costs and these costs were a much bigger problem than Ukraine's independence.

In Europe (though not, thankfully, in Britain, Jeremy Corbyn aside) similar voices can be heard. In Germany back in April a conservative state prime minister called for Ukrainian concessions and 30 intellectuals wrote an open letter to Olaf Scholz arguing against German military support for Kyiv. One reason was the danger of escalation and the other was the "level of destruction and human suffering among the Ukrainian civilian population". They added: "At

one point, even justified resistance against an aggressor is unbearably disproportionate." A Ukrainian writer countered this condescension: "In my apartment in Kyiv I have books by Alexander Kluge, who is one of my favourite authors, and who, by signing this letter, condemns me, my parents, my apartment with his books, to disappear."

Last week the Nato secretary-general Jens Stoltenberg warned

We may need to turn off the lights so the light doesn't go out

alliance members of the tough winter ahead. "I understand that many people are frustrated and actually feel the pain with increasing energy prices, the cost of living. But we have to remember that the price we pay is measured in money while the price that Ukrainians are paying is measured in lives lost every day."

On Wednesday, the president of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, told MEPs: "With the necessary courage and the necessary solidarity, Putin will fail and Ukraine and Europe will prevail. This is time for resolve and not for appeasement. We are in for the long haul."

Without gas and without allowing a victory for bullies and barbarism? Then without gas. This winter, to extend the metaphor, we may need to switch off the lights precisely so the light doesn't go out.

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Focus on this: your attention span is just fine

Big tech has introduced plenty of distractions but science suggests the pessimists are wrong

James
Marriott



@J_AMESMARRIOTT

A warm evening breeze coming in over the lake, a panorama of distant mountains, an excellent novel ... but a strange dissatisfaction. Amid this virtuous tableau of everything I am supposed to like — books, nature, solitude, holiday, Italy, girlfriend — I discover to my disappointment that I'm thinking, as so often, about Twitter. The fortunes of my enemies (hopefully declining), entertaining videos of dogs (hopefully proliferating). I launch myself back into the lake and splash round for a bit trying to live in the moment. On emerging, I find I am still wondering about Twitter. I trudge dripping back to the Airbnb to switch on my phone and break my "digital detox".

According to the present consensus, that lapse is evidence of a broken mind. Since about 2010, the regular appearance of anti-tech polemics, usually authored by distressed, high-minded American writers, has been a publishing industry routine. Franklin Foer's *World Without Mind*, Nicholas Carr's *The Shallows*, Cal Newport's *Digital Minimalism* ... the internet has shattered our attention spans, degraded our capacity for profound thought and deprived us of our ability to read properly. The idea is leaking into the popular imagination. A King's

College study published a few months ago reports that half of people believe their attention spans are declining.

As a devoted pessimist I follow all declinist arguments avidly. But the supposed apocalypse of the human intellect is more rhetorically satisfying than it is scientifically persuasive. Buy enough doom books about technology and you notice that each fresh publication is followed by trails of sceptical scientific commentary. The evidence that the human attention span is declining is vague to non-existent. Many scientists dispute that it's even possible to measure attention. One comprehensive review of studies on the effects of video games found that

Samuel Pepys was anxious that he was addicted to his watch

they "led to significant improvements in performance on various cognitive tasks". For a disaster on the scale some describe, you would expect more decisive data.

Much anti-tech fulmination contains suspicious echoes of the airy, pseudo-neolithic nostalgia of the wellness movement with its dubious enthusiasm for paleo diets and the lifestyle insights of cavemen. Before my digital detox I should perhaps have reflected that the word "detox" is hardly a reliable indicator that the ensuing advice will be unimpeachably scientific.

Luddism has proved one of the most perennially misleading impulses of modernity. To smash the

frightening new machines seems virtuous at the time. The old ways, after all, are supported by a weight of tradition and custom; support for the new comes from the callow young and the blatantly profit-seeking. But the absurdities flare out in hindsight. Hence anecdotes about Samuel Pepys's anxiety that he had become addicted to his pocket watch, and the 17th-century philosopher Robert Burton's fretful concern for the "vast chaos and confusion of books".

It is the nature of the human brain to be changed by its environment; that environment includes media. Even reading. The cultural anthropologist Joseph Henrich arrestingly notes that "literacy changes people's biology and psychology". Members of cultures with very high literacy rates have thicker corpora callosa (the bundles of nerve fibres that connect the brain's hemispheres) and experience strange cognitive trade-offs such as worse facial recognition than people living in parts of the world with unusually low literacy rates. The quest for virgin, unspoiled regions of the mind is a quixotic one. To abolish iPhones and artificially arrest the cultural evolution of the brain now would be to stop an ancient process at what is, in the wide span of human history, an arbitrary juncture.

Even a medium-term historical view confounds unreflecting techno pessimism. Boredom is currently being touted as a vanishing analogue virtue ("whatever happened to just staring out the window" etc), but as recently as the 19th century it was considered a new malaise of alienated industrial society.

I remain a sceptic of digital

technology. I am persuaded that social media is a threat to teenage mental health, to truth and to social harmony (as previous media innovations from the printing press to the electric telegraph have been). But for the human intellect and human attention? In my industry, the burgeoning form is the deeply researched "long-read". Podcasts stretch to hours for a single episode. The "golden age" of long, complex television drama glides on. It only takes a little discernment to choose your distractions. The lesson of my holiday: more podcasts, less Twitter.

Pessimism is compulsive, as all sentimental emotions are. The impulse to wallow is one with which I am familiar but scepticism should be informed. I probably get through fewer books than I did in my teens. But I read more good journalism, spend more time with an encyclopaedia (Wikipedia) and have instant access to the minds of clever friends. That these things are "addictive" is not down to the shadowy plotting of Silicon Valley CEOs, it is down to human nature. Broad and sometimes dreary experience has taught me that not all books are automatically interesting, worthwhile or virtuous.

Perhaps this is hard to accept because it entails a disappointing revelation about ourselves: we are not, as we had perhaps hoped, sombre, deep-thinking creatures but lovers of triviality, distraction and novelty. I do love swimming, books and looking at mountains. But I also love conversation, facts, gossip, news, up-to-date information about my enemies' failures and videos of dogs.



It's the plus-ones who deserve more of the plaudits

Libby Purves

Charles III, grieving, travel-weary and probably a bit more overwhelmed than he expected, falls foul of an inkwell in London, a leaky pen in Belfast and a doubt about what day it is. And dammit, someone's left a mic on, so a dazed nation can chorus "Queen wouldn't have snapped like that!". But who is this at the monarch's shoulder, bright hair beneath the black hat, stepping forward to sign in turn and radiate gentle goodwill? It's Camilla, once the nation's wicked witch, now a national treasure, a consort. Happy not to be the main event, never pulling focus, reliable and reassuring.

So for once in this age of equality let's hear it for such plus-ones, the supporters. Raise a glass to Denis Thatcher and Philip May and Mr O'Leary, who is now presumably blinking in horror at the gold wallpaper at No 10. Cheer for Clemmie Churchill, for Angela Merkel's dear Joachim watching her speeches in his chemistry lab, for Dolly Parton's quiet Carl Dean. Salute every partner who is a discreet, unembarrassing sounding-board and home comfort to a leader, CEO or superstar, who turns up faithfully with the right clothes and smalltalk to their other half's events and functions.

It's not an ignoble calling, though not one for the restlessly ambitious or personally insecure. It deserves the odd plaudit because our age admires showy personal follow-your-dreams fulfilment, and gives exaggerated prestige to "power couples". Anthropologists speak of selective mating, in which intensely educated high achievers are attracted to one another's gleam. Fine as far as it goes, but the example of showbiz suggests that a double dose of stress — and the inevitability of competition — breaks up a lot of partnerships.

Someone who has had a tense and draining 20-hour day does not enjoy being greeted at the end of it by a partner rattling-crazy with their own problems, or indeed one rigid with jealousy. The wife of a Bank of England governor, never mind which, once told me firmly that "career women" like me had no appreciation of how much her home-making, jam and reassurance stopped him from collapsing the economy.

Those twin-barrelled power-couples who do make it work may have to set brutally frank conditions. I hear of one high-flyer married to an MP: every year she allows him five "chits" for occasions when she will come to one of his official things. If he's used them all up by mid-March and then becomes foreign secretary, or has to address conference, that's tough: she's got work to do. So far he hasn't run off with some doe-eyed worshipper. But you can see the temptation.

Janice Turner Notebook

Ballet in exile shows Ukraine's true colours

I've seen no better expression of "soft power" than Ukrainian dancers in exile forming a ballet company. You may wonder how staging *Giselle* at the London Coliseum could help the war effort until you see in the programme notes how many dancers trained in Donetsk or Kharkiv.

At first their government allowed only female dancers to join the nascent United Ukrainian Ballet based in Amsterdam. But eventually male dancers were permitted to leave too, although many stayed to fight: this week Oleksandr Shapoval, a choreographer and former ballet soloist, died on the frontline.

War reduces perception of a country to weeping victims, armed men, terrified children. As conflict drags on, as cities are ruined, it seems an ever more alien place. But these young, disciplined bodies, striving to create beauty, remind the world of Ukraine's true, cultured

self. The company emerged beaming for their curtain call swathed in yellow and blue flags. You can fight for freedom en pointe in a pas de deux.

Healthy discomfort

For an occupied nation this display of patriotic defiance felt only right. But before the performance we were asked to stand for our own national anthem, sung by a choir from the English National Opera. It was Benjamin Britten's arrangement of the anthem — which makes it less of a dirge — played by full orchestra, striking the perfect note as the Queen's coffin descended on London.

All the same, it was unusual to be pressed into a patriotic act. This country has always been squeamish of pledging allegiance to flags or putting a hand on our heart as we gaze mistily into middle distance. "That was both beautiful," I whispered to my friend, "and a bit Kim Jong-un."

A principal reason I'm proud to be British is our healthy discomfort when compelled to prove it.

Mourning marathon

I'd hoped *Giselle* would be an escape from death, coffins, flowers, tributes etc which, since my mother died just five days before the Queen, I'm now finding a little overwhelming. But as a ballet ignoramus, I didn't realise *Giselle* croaks in the first half and for the second is a "Willi" (a ghost) who dances, albeit prettily, round her own grave. But at least when the wall-to-wall coverage gets too much, I can go for a walk or a consoling lunch with friends, unlike the Queen's children performing their Olympiad of grief. I'm not surprised Prince Charles snapped — "I can't bear this bloody thing ... every stinking time" — when he wrote the wrong date in a visitors' book with a leaky pen. I got furious searching for my mum's national insurance number or trying to figure out what to do with a dozen £2 premium bonds. "Sadmin" is exhausting even when



not conducted in the public gaze.

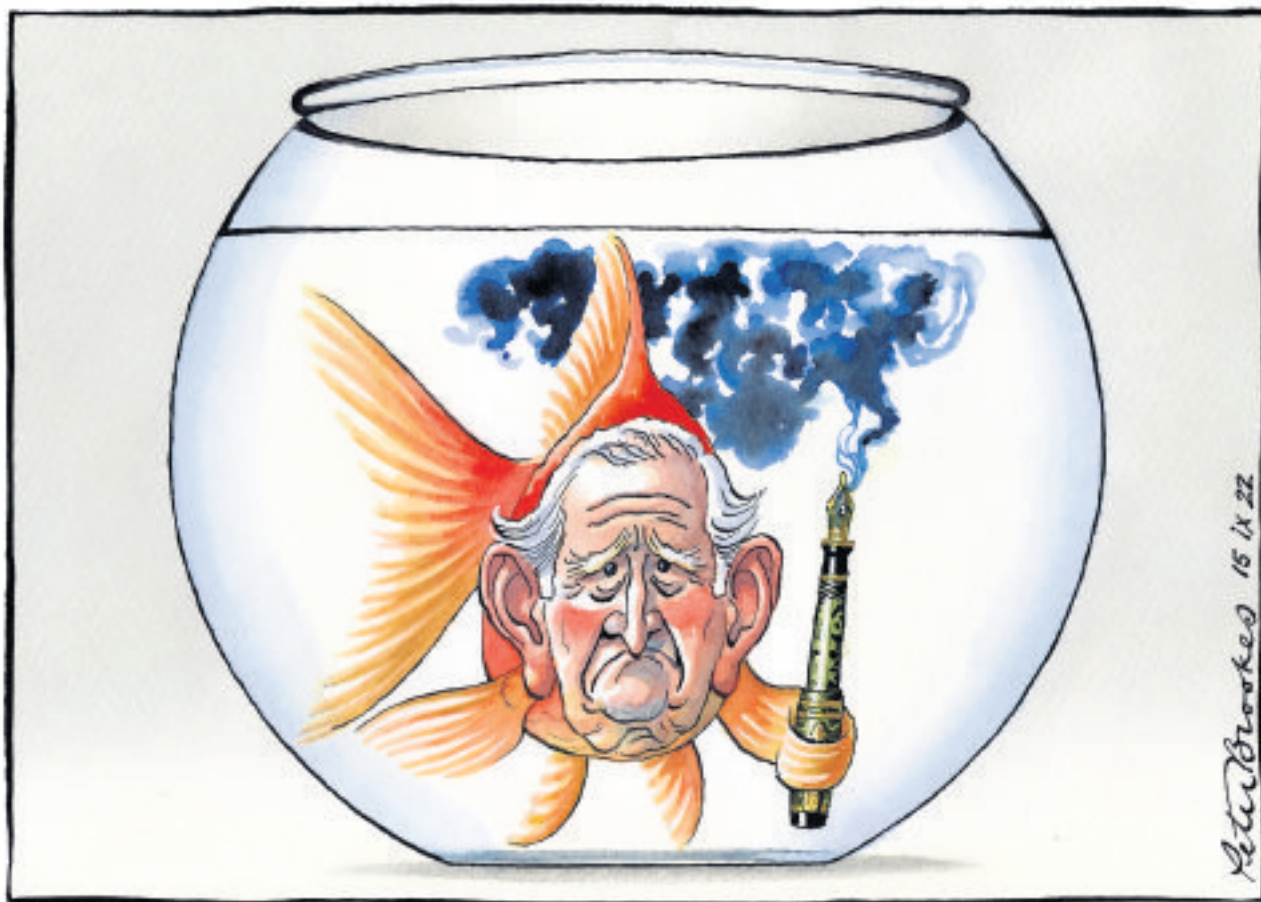
Heavy duty

I doubt Prince Charles was asked by an undertaker making his mother's arrangements if he'd like to have her fingerprints made into jewellery. I thought I'd misunderstood the question. But apparently it's a thing, like having your newborn baby's feet cast in silver. I asked if these prints might be used to access the deceased's locked mobile phone. "No, but we get asked to do that all the time," said the undertaker. "But it doesn't work — the temperature of the hand isn't right."

Then he asked if family members want to carry my mum's coffin and I recalled that my husband's family found bearing his father an unexpected struggle. "Yes," he said sympathetically, "people don't realise how heavy it can be."

He told me he'd been an undertaker for 26 years, lying about his profession when young so as not to repel girls. ("I told them I was a joiner.") And over time his clients have grown ever heavier. "You can't shoulder 20st," he said. They have a special trolley now for moving the obese into church: "You just have one heave to get it onto the catafalque."

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Rise of hard right shatters Sweden's dream

Angered by violent crime and unchecked immigration, one in five voters backed a party with a recent Nazi past

Iain Martin



@IAINMARTINI

Towards the end of one of the longest days of the year, a glorious summer evening, I asked a friend as we strolled through the idyllic centre of Stockholm what all the sirens and police cars whizzing past were about. Probably another shooting or gangland punch-up in the suburbs, he responded. That fear of intensifying gun crime was the sombre backdrop to an exceptionally close general election in Sweden.

Gun violence is out of control. Last month, a mother and child were caught in crossfire at a playground. A decade ago, before bleak, murderous Scandi television drama became so popular elsewhere, Sweden had one of the lowest rates of fatal shootings in Europe. No longer. It's now among the worst. Already this year there have been 44 such killings in a country with a population of only 10.4 million. The previous annual record of 47 will soon be surpassed.

The election campaign ahead of last Sunday's vote was dominated by such concerns, along with worries

about looming inflation (it hit 9 per cent yesterday) and energy security, or the lack of it.

The most notable feature of the result is the rise of the Sweden Democrats, a hard-right party with Nazi roots in the 1990s that blames the rise in gun violence and gangs on a surge in immigration during the past decade. They won the support of one in five Swedes and are now the second largest party, a spectacular advance from the 0.4 per cent backing they achieved in 1998 or the 1.4 per cent in 2002.

How can this be happening in a tolerant Scandinavian country, a model of co-operative good sense, famous for its engineering, pop music and a cool design aesthetic?

The country's social democrat dream has become a nightmare

To be clear, Sweden is not about to get a fascist or far-right government. Sweden has many parties, a coalition system and weeks of coalition talks to come. But the victorious bloc of right-wing parties has only managed to eject the ruling centre-left coalition thanks in large part to the success of the Sweden Democrats.

Even if the party's leaders are unlikely to take formal cabinet roles,

something the other smaller conservative parties have sworn will not happen, they will have considerable influence on government policy.

The party may have shifted its more extreme positions, preferring to emphasise that immigrants should assimilate and become Swedish rather than being thrown out of the country, but they have not made many friends. "They are a pretty unpleasant bunch, but they won't want to be in the government," says a leading Swedish journalist.

The likely new prime minister, the Moderate conservative party leader Ulf Kristersson, is a conventional conservative, mild-mannered, sharp-suited, an intellectual with three children adopted from China. He has said he will co-operate with the Sweden Democrats. After all, he will need their day-to-day backing in parliament to form a government. And for that support he will have to reflect some of their priorities in his coalition programme. That is some advance for a party that in the 2010 elections was only the sixth largest.

Even some Swedes who cannot abide the Sweden Democrats admit quietly that the country's Social Democrat dream has turned into a nightmare. It's not just crime but also generous welfare, which critics say encourages people to avoid work and shun society.

Public policy has gone badly wrong in other spheres too. Sweden, land of engineers, has messed up its energy security. A country that previously had a largely self-sufficient energy system tried to go fully green way too fast. The back-and-forth argument against nuclear power that started in the late 1970s will now take another turn, and a conservative government is likely to go back to building more nuclear power rather than phasing it out.

Voters have responded perfectly rationally to policy failures

Immigration is the trickiest subject but unavoidable. After 2015 and the Syrian emergency it was attempted on such an extraordinary and naive scale here that it was always going to create difficulties.

The figures are confused and disputed but it seems that roughly 180,000 immigrants arrived from 2017 to 2018 alone. The equivalent would be roughly 1.1 million in Britain in a single year.

This exacerbated the long-term decline of the Social Democrats among formerly loyal working-class voters. In 2002, 50 per cent of working-class voters said they voted Social Democrat. By this year's

election it was down to 32 per cent.

There are comparable populist surges in other European countries, such as Italy, where the hard right is tipped to take power, or in Britain, where Ukip drove the Conservative Party into Brexit.

The common theme is the arrogance of too many centre-left, ultra-liberals who will not listen to even mild concerns about uncontrolled immigration or greening the economy so fast the lights go out. This result in Sweden is not about voters taking some wild swing to the right or being fooled by demagoguery. They have responded perfectly rationally to fundamental changes to society and policy failures.

The centre of gravity has shifted. Swedish voters are seeking a course correction back to security. Even the Social Democrats, the egalitarian establishment party that has governed for much of Sweden's time as a democracy, promised in the campaign to be tougher on crime.

There's another corrective, for those who believe the media myth of the Greta generation. Early data suggests younger voters went right, on the back of fears about crime. If voters aged 18-29 had their way, the conservative margin of victory would have been large. Sweden hasn't gone mad. It is changing, hopefully not before it's too late.

Letters to the Editor



Civil strife

Sir, It is one thing for Lord Agnew of Oulton (Thunderer, Sep 12; letters, Sep 13-14) to criticise the influence of the Treasury in Whitehall and to advocate institutional change, but quite another for him to disparage by name a senior civil servant. My own experience of working with Sir Tom Scholar was of a very able and dedicated official who worked with skill and energy to deliver the policy outcomes that his prime minister and ministers wanted. I remember in particular his role in 2013 when troubles in the eurozone meant that Cyprus, our Commonwealth partner, faced financial collapse. Rather than offer a bailout David Cameron sent Sir Tom to Nicosia with a small team of British officials who had experience of the Northern Rock rescue and the 2008 banking crisis, to help Cypriot officials to stabilise the situation.

When I visited the island a few months later, every official I met, from the president down, praised Sir Tom and his team for what they had done. His efforts helped a friendly country at a time of need and generated considerable goodwill towards the United Kingdom.

Sir David Lidington

Cabinet Office minister 2018-19 and Foreign Office minister 2010-16; Princes Risborough, Bucks

Sir, The letters of Sir David Normington and Lord Wilson of Dinton once again rehearse the canard that all top civil servants are scrupulously impartial and politically neutral. I must beg to differ. More than 36 years in government service taught me that many mandarins, particularly those with strong pro-EU views, all too often pushed their own political agendas and covertly manoeuvred against policies of which they disapproved.

Terry Smith
London NW11

Long live the King

Sir, Determined not to be excluded from paying my respects, on Monday I made my way to Edinburgh to join the thousands in the Royal Mile. I was struck by the number of young people. Talking to those nearby, it was clear that most were not there just for the photo-op but because they, like me, wished to pay their respects to the Queen, and to show support for King Charles. There was much thoughtful discussion and genuine affection.

I think our future is in good hands.
David R Smith
Southport

Corrections and clarifications

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Charles III's role as Defender of the Faith

Sir, Like Daniel Finkelstein I am thankful that our new King has embraced his role as Defender of the Faith as well as Supreme Governor of the Church of England ("Charles shouldn't fear defending the faith", comment, Sep 14). Like most Anglicans, King Charles understands that being deeply rooted in and committed to his own faith allows him to be open and reach out to others. As the Queen said at the time of her Diamond Jubilee: "The concept of our established Church is occasionally misunderstood and, I believe, commonly under-appreciated. Its role is not to defend Anglicanism to the exclusion of other religions. Instead, the Church has a duty to protect the free practice of all faiths in this country." The Queen's deep Christian faith did not prevent her from serving people of all faiths and none. Rather, it inspired and enabled her to do so. The same will be true, God willing, of our new King.

The Right Rev Dr John Inge
Bishop of Worcester

Sir, I agree with much that Daniel Finkelstein writes about King Charles III's "defence of the faith". Yet it remains an irony of history that the title *Fidei Defensor* was originally conferred upon Henry VIII for defending Catholic doctrines against Lutheran ones. Henry's name has become a byword for despotism and barbarous cruelty, for he proved a veritable Bluebeard of many vices. We

would do better to dispense with such an unfortunate association, especially on our coinage, and thereby to align ourselves with other modern countries under the Crown.

David Gallop
Professor of philosophy emeritus,
Trent University, Ontario

Sir, A large number of people will pay their respects as the Queen's body lies in state. While this will be an important and heartfelt tribute to a life well-lived, the Queen herself would, I suggest, have preferred a different focus: a resolution on all our parts to learn from her example of service and faith and to respond with gratitude, hope and a commitment to live differently and less selfishly.

Canon Nick Hallam
Hawkshead, Cumbria

Sir, Matthew Parris's disappointment at the use of an aeroplane to transport the Queen's body (Notebook, Sep 14) overlooks the contribution the RAF's C-17 Globemaster to our history. As well as delivering humanitarian aid, the RAF's small fleet of C-17s have moved military materiel, transported Afghan refugees and borne home service personnel wounded and killed in foreign conflicts. Those personnel served the Queen and did their duty by her. For the Queen to be borne home herself in one of these aircraft is surely as appropriate as a royal train.

Mark Flynn
Arkesden, Essex

Party conferences

Sir, Patrick Maguire is right: "There's much to do for MPs, so ditch the conference recess" (Thunderer, Sep 14). The UK has in effect been without governance since July because the prime minister had to be replaced mid-term. This was in the middle of a global energy crisis, a severe domestic economic downturn and the war in Ukraine. The Queen's death has unavoidably led to further inertia. And after next week, as Maguire says, parliament will be virtually non-operational owing to the annual round of party conference jollies. This means that there will be little discussion or debate on the issues that are crippling the four nations of the UK for yet another month. These must surely be cancelled or severely curtailed.

Joy Davies
Cardiff

Sir, Patrick Maguire describes the long conference recess as "an absurd convention" and says that party conferences, which he calls "largely pointless affairs", should be ditched. I disagree. Those who run the fabric of our country — local authorities, the NHS, businesses and charities — welcome these occasions when those at the top of government mingle with members of the public. Genuine communication, (two-way) listening and speaking is at the heart of our democracy. Every MP and minister is most certainly not on holiday during the party conference season.

Tony Devenish
London W2

Our shared identity

Sir, I do not think that your leading article was quite right when it asserted that the Union of England and Scotland dates from 1603

Sir, Hilary Rose is to be applauded for dispelling the myth of reconciliation between the princes and their respective wives ("Does 'That Walkabout' really mean a thawing in this sibling rivalry?", Times2, Sep 13). Was anyone really taken in by any supposed forgiveness flowing between William and Harry? I rather doubt it.

Judith Blaydes

Kendal

Sir, How very traditional that the King's pen should flood as he signed the visitors' book in Northern Ireland ("Charles kicks up stink over leaking ink", Sep 14). I well recollect the same thing happening as the Queen signed the book when opening the new Court of Appeal building in the Strand a quarter of a century ago.

Lord Brown of Eaton-under-Heywood

House of Lords

Sir, Susanna Martin (Sep 14) suggests "Elizabeth the Extraordinary" as an epithet. "Elizabeth the Wise" would be better. "Wise" is defined as "having or showing experience, knowledge and good judgment", qualities I fear we will sorely miss in the coming years.

John Graham
Bristol

Sir, I agree with Susanna Martin that "Elizabeth the Great" does not sit well. "Great is too heavy a word". How about "Elizabeth the Faithful"?

Christabel Liddle
High Shindcliffe, Durham

("Queen's Land", Sep 13). The year 1603 marked only the union of the crowns, in the person of King James VI and I. The full union of the two countries did not occur until the enactment of the Treaty of Union 1707 — as indeed you refer to elsewhere in your editorial.

This principle was demonstrated in 1639, a few years after the union of the crowns, when Scottish troops, in prosecution of the first Bishops' War, fought English troops. This is generally not regarded so much as a civil war but rather as two sovereign countries getting into a fight about their joint monarch's religious policies.

Oliver Westmoreland
London W4

Letters to the Editor must be exclusive to The Times and may be edited. Please include a full address and daytime telephone number.

PLIGHT OF AUSTRIAN ARISTOCRATS

FROM THE TIMES SEPTEMBER 15, 1922

Many Austrian aristocrats of the old regime are making pathetic efforts to earn a living. In the bar of a picturesque hotel in a mountain village near Salzburg there is an immensely tall young man who wears a monocle and acts as bar attendant and waiter. With his eye-glass screwed into his left eye, he quietly serves drinks to the guests as though he had never known any other occupation. His identity was a mystery until one night a Russian ex-officer joined us at the hotel. After dinner we went as usual to the bar and ordered coffee and liqueurs.

The Russian glanced casually at the waiter when the drinks arrived, and as their eyes met both men started with surprise. "I think we have met before, sir?" said the waiter. "Yes, but I cannot remember where," replied the Russian. The tall waiter shuffled back to the bar, and a few minutes later, when we had almost forgotten the incident, the Russian suddenly banged the table with his fist and exclaimed: "Now I have it. That is the man who interrogated me when I was taken prisoner in Galicia!" Subsequent inquiries revealed that the waiter had been a colonel in one of the "crack" Austrian regiments and a rich landowner before the war.

In Vienna, it is said, barristers, ruined financiers, and retired generals readily responded to an appeal for workers to sweep the streets at a weekly wage of 7,000 kronen (then worth less than 7s in purchasing value), and on river banks I have seen stone-breaking

gangs which included unemployed professional men who commanded substantial salaries before the war and are now compelled to exist on a starvation wage. To watch these men wearily breaking stones, their limbs unaccustomed to the strain, and their faces lined with despair, is one of the most heartrending sights in Austria today.

There is a brighter side to this distress. It is diverting to observe the ingenuity of more fortunate well-bred Austrians who still possess means sufficient to pay their hotel bills, while ever looking for some innocent method of augmenting their incomes without compromising their dignity. A charming middle-aged Viennese lady of this type lives in a Salzburg hotel and sells home-made toys, tea-cosies, and other household articles to visitors.

THETIMES.CO.UK/ARCHIVE

Right to protest

Sir, The sight of British police removing members of the public for displaying placards such as "Not my monarch" is surely something that the Queen would have abhorred (leading article, Sep 14). Our laws are introduced for specific reasons but are then interpreted for use in other circumstances. Further, British justice is based on precedent, and the sooner the police are brought to book for this excessive use of their powers the sooner Britain will be saved from the downward spiral into "conduct usually associated with the police in Russia".

Iain Slinn
Easter Kinkell, Highland

Sir, It is right that people should have the right of freedom of speech to make a legitimate protest about something. To have the greatest impact, the protest should be carried out at the right time. But surely, under the unwritten laws of decency, that time is not when someone is grieving for the loss of their mother.

Charles Murray
High Harrington, Cumbria

Golden parachutes

Sir, How differently we estimate the worth of some compared with others ("Golden goodbyes", letter, Sep 14). I recall my leaving full-time service in the NHS in 2003, after 34 years of service, and being informed that I could choose a gift to the value of £30. Rather than put three new £10 notes through a shredder (my initial plan) I asked for, and received, a cheque for £30 payable to Cancer Research UK.

Jeremy Auchincloss
Ret'd consultant orthopaedic surgeon,
Elgin, Moray

Face of justice

Sir, I missed no opportunity to remove my wig during my years as a crown court judge and did not wear it at all in the High Court (letters, Sep 12-14). I never felt the proceedings would have gained formality and solemnity if I had put on that magic hat. On the contrary, I feel that juries are more inclined to listen to a judge who does not look as if he or she has just stepped in from a different time.

His Honour David Mole

Hinton St George, Somerset

Rock-a-bye baby

Sir, As an expectant mother I read with interest your report "How to send a crying baby to sleep in minutes: the scientists' solution" (Sep 13). But the critical detail mentioned was that the sample size for this research was a mere 21 babies. I could have cobbled this number together from a couple of mother and baby groups. The study is purely exploratory and needs confirmation through larger samples.

Naomi Longworth

Twickenham

Funeral rites

Sir, The state funeral of Sir Winston Churchill took place on a Saturday morning. In those days we worked on Saturdays so we came to work as usual — but not one patient turned up for their dental appointment. The British public would much prefer to watch a wonderfully executed state occasion than go to the dentist, so Johan P Bjork (letter, Sep 14) should expect a bit of thumb-twiddling.

Bruce Morgan

Ret'd dental surgeon, Derby

Daily Universal Register

UK: Queen Elizabeth II lies in state at Westminster Hall in London.
US: UN general assembly in New York holds a special session to pay tribute to the Queen.

Nature notes



Autumn came early this year. The silver birch trees on the local bridleway began to lose their leaves back in July. It felt strange and

sad walking through this unseasonal leaf fall. Birches can withstand the extremes of wind and ice, and can even colonise soil that is badly polluted with heavy metals (they are one of the first tree species to grow on abandoned collieries, railway sidings and former chemical works) but they don't do well in droughts. A quick-growing species, they require plenty of water. Beech trees are even more badly affected by drought. Even now, decades on from the summer of 1976, some beeches show an impeded growth pattern. JONATHAN TULLOCH

Birthdays today



Duke of Sussex (Prince Harry), pictured, 38; Debbie Abrahams, Labour MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth, shadow work and pensions secretary (2016-18), 62;

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, writer, *Half of a Yellow Sun* (2006), *Notes on Grief* (2021), 45; Sophie Dahl, model and author, *The Worst Sleepover in the World* (2021), 45; Lord (Stanley) Fink, hedge-fund manager, principal treasurer of the Conservative Party (2010-13), 65; Tom Hardy, actor, *The Dark Knight Rises* (2012), *The Revenant* (2015), 45; Lord (Philip) Harris of Peckham, chairman, Carpetright (1993-2004), 80; Very Rev David Ison, dean of St Paul's, who retires this month, 68; Tommy Lee Jones, actor, *The Fugitive* (1993), the Men in Black film series, 76; Queen Letizia of Spain, 50; John Loker, abstract painter, 84; Sir Michael Lyons, chairman, English Cities Fund, BBC Trust (2007-11), 73; Clive Morrison, actor, best known for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes (BBC Radio 4, 1989-2010), 77; Emmerson Mnangagwa, president of Zimbabwe, 80; Brendan O'Carroll, actor and writer, *Mrs Brown's Boys* (since 2011), 67; Pawel Pawlikowski, film-maker, *Ida* (2013), *Cold War* (2018), 65; Mike Procter, cricketer, South Africa (1967-70), 76; Renzo Rosso, fashion designer, brands including Diesel, Maison Margiela, Viktor & Rolf and Marni, 67; Henry Silva, actor, *The Manchurian Candidate* (1962), 94; Oliver Stone, film director and screenwriter, *Platoon* (1986), *Nixon* (1995), 76; Amanda Wakeley, fashion designer, 60; George Walden, writer, former diplomat and Conservative MP (1983-97), 83; Steve Watkin, cricketer, England (1991-93), 58; Alan Whitehead, Labour MP for Southampton, Test, shadow climate change and net zero minister, 72; Peter Wilson, sport shooter, Olympic gold medalist (2012), 36.

On this day

In 1940 a turning point was reached in the Battle of Britain, with the RAF shooting down 56 invading aircraft in two dogfights. The next day the Luftwaffe replaced daytime attacks with night-time sorties.

The last word

"My idea is that there is music in the air, music all around us, the world is full of it and you simply take as much as you require." Edward Elgar, composer, speaking in 1896, quoted in *Sir Edward Elgar* by RJ Buckley (1905)



People's Procession

It is not too late to amend the Queen's funeral plans to enable still more members of the public to witness in person her last journey and pay their respects

A state funeral enables a nation to express collective grief and gratitude for a life of service. As Alfred, Lord Tennyson, wrote in his *Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington* in 1852: "We have a voice with which to pay the debt/ Of boundless love and reverence and regret..." Those sentiments have been amply displayed by crowds lining the streets in Scotland and in west London as the hearse carrying the Queen's coffin has passed, and is evident in the long queues of mourners in London to pay their respects as she lies in state.

Those responsible for arranging the late Queen's journey from Balmoral to Buckingham Palace, and then on yesterday to Westminster Hall, have done it skilfully and sensitively. It is no criticism of them, but a reflection of the popular mood, to note that many more of her subjects throughout the United Kingdom would have wished to bid her farewell. They might have been able to do so had the coffin's journey been longer, in distance and duration. It is not too late to amend the funeral arrangements to allow more people to witness at first hand the Queen's last journey.

The dignity of the crowds and of the passage of the state hearse since the Queen's death last week has been exemplary. No one could fail to have been moved by the willingness of mourners to

queue overnight at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, where the Queen lay at rest before her coffin was flown to London on Tuesday. In accord with the Queen's characteristic attention to detail, the hearse, with its interior illuminated and its exterior bearing the royal cipher, was designed to allow the best possible view of the coffin for waiting crowds.

The Queen's lying in state began at 5pm yesterday. A provisional estimate is that 750,000 people will file past her coffin, having waited patiently in line for 30 hours or more. It is not fanciful to suppose that almost the entire population of these islands would wish to do likewise, if only they had the opportunity and stamina.

For the public to willingly experience such privations in order to have a moment by the coffin is an indication of the loyalty that the Queen commanded by her character and example. Had her final journey from Scotland been undertaken by train rather than plane, there would have been an aptly traditional quality to it, for the coffin of her father, George VI, was carried by rail from Sandringham, where he died, to London in 1952.

It may be that security arrangements militated against it on this occasion, in which case it is still more desirable that the Queen's funeral cortège

take a circuitous route to her final resting place. The Queen's state funeral will be held at Westminster Abbey on Monday. She will then be laid to rest in the chapel named after her father at Windsor Castle. Long-established as these plans are, it would be prosaic to insist they be immutable when the public desire to witness the procession in person is so strong. It would not be served if the Queen's coffin made a swift exit from London along the A4 Hammersmith flyover.

It would be better, and more in accord with the ethos of the Queen's long reign and devotion to duty, if her last journey followed a route along by-roads rather than main roads. Crowds could safely then be accommodated once more in Windsor, along the path of a little over two and a half miles known as The Long Walk, which connects the castle with Snow Hill in Windsor Great Park.

This was the route taken by the carriage of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex after their wedding in 2018. The natural beauty of the avenue, lined by horse chestnut, oak and plane trees, would live in the memory of the watching public, on television and among those along the route. Amid a nation's bereavement, it would contribute to a common understanding that, in St Paul's words, death is swallowed up in victory.

Cancel Culture

The Queen's funeral ought not to be cause for the NHS to deny patients care

If the National Health Service is to be truly worthy of its name, it must be able to provide care to anyone who may need it, whenever that may be. No doctor or nurse would expect to receive Christmas Day off as a matter of course. Illnesses do not tend to observe public holidays. Yet in recent days thousands of NHS appointments and operations scheduled for the day of the Queen's state funeral have been cancelled.

It is of course only right that the nation be given the opportunity to pause and pay their respects, if only at a distance, on Monday. But for hospitals to cancel hip and knee operations or postpone cancer, cardiology and maternity appointments because of the bank holiday is a regrettable misstep. Urgent care will go ahead, but the NHS has otherwise been given discretion to amend and withdraw services as it sees fit. If this does not exacerbate the crisis in Britain's hospitals, it certainly exposes it.

There is no reason why closure and reduced services should be the default, notwithstanding the desire of staff to pay their respects. While non-urgent and outpatient care is typically reduced on

a normal bank holiday, Monday's was organised with such haste that full days of appointments in hospitals and general practices had already been scheduled. Indeed, on any given Monday, England's 28,000 general practitioners can expect to fulfil 1.3 million appointments. It is the busiest day of the NHS's week. With Covid-19 backlogs having left 6.7 million patients on the official NHS waiting list, and 378,000 denied care for a year or more, there is no time for hospitals to waste.

Yet that is what Monday's cancellations will do. Lives will be lost as appointments are delayed, procedures are postponed and opportunities to catch symptoms and make vital surgical interventions are missed. Only this week it emerged that 2.5 million workers had exited the labour market with long-term sickness, with 400,000 having done so since early 2020, many of whom will be among those needing NHS treatment or suffering from long Covid. Their plight underlines the urgency of fixing the health service.

NHS chiefs cite the difficulties clinical staff will have in finding childcare at such short notice and rightly note that they should have an opportunity

to mark the Queen's death. There is no good reason, however, to put patients at risk of worsening illness or death. Ministers have been quick to stress that there is no statutory right to time off next Monday, and that the decision ultimately lies with employers.

This sorry case, however, is arguably a glimpse of the NHS crisis facing Theresa Coffey, the health secretary, and Amanda Pritchard, the chief executive of NHS England, in microcosm. Patients, through no fault of their own, find themselves facing long waits for even the most routine care. Hospitals and surgeries find themselves short of doctors to speed their seemingly endless paths to treatment. And ministers find themselves with one option: accede to demands from health trusts for more cash to guarantee generous overtime pay to maintain even the basic levels of service to which patients are entitled.

It may be too late to salvage services that have already been cancelled. But Ms Coffey and Ms Pritchard must ensure that there is no repeat of this avoidable scandal and redouble their efforts to clear the backlog.

State of the Art

Museums are right to sell exhibits to expand their digital content

In a few weeks the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York is to offer works by Picasso, Renoir and Rodin for auction at Sotheby's. The sale is expected to raise at least £60 million, which will largely go towards improving MoMA's online presence, including possibly developing a dedicated streaming channel. The move is being made with the blessing of the William S Paley Foundation, on whose behalf the museum houses the works on long-term loan. None of the pieces to be sold are presently on display. The sale is justified.

As with most museums, MoMA exhibits only a fraction of its permanent collection. While the

Tate shows about a fifth of its treasures, a proportion closer to 5 per cent is more common in many galleries. Thus, most art supposedly available for public enjoyment and enlightenment is in fact rarely or never seen other than by staff. If the price of opening the vaults and making their contents accessible via digital reproductions online is that some physical works enter private collections, so be it. It will seem a decent trade-off to most art lovers, particularly those living far from big cities.

Enthusiasts acquired a taste for virtual exhibitions during lockdown. Physical attendance figures have yet to recover to their pre-pandemic

levels. The future of artistic display, many curators believe, is digital, a medium where both content and visitor numbers are potentially limitless.

Given the obstructions and interruptions which often accompany first-hand viewing of a masterpiece, it is hard to argue that online perusal is necessarily an inferior experience. It is already, certainly, a widespread method of art appreciation, and one which diverting resources to utilise new technology will make still more popular. If the outcome of judicious off-loading is more art seen more often by more people, that is a goal the creative industries should pursue.

World

Give us back our children, liberated parents tell Russia

Ukraine

Richard Spencer Balakliya

Families in territory recaptured by Ukrainian forces in the east of the country are demanding that Russia return children who were taken from them and moved across the border “for their safety”.

One mother said her only child had been offered a “holiday by the sea” by the Russians last month as the fighting raged. Out of fear and desperation, Alla Zinchynko and other parents accepted. But she has not seen her 11-year-old daughter, Sophia, since, and now that Zinchynko is on the Ukrainian side of the lines she does not know how they can be reunited.

She said she could text Sophia, who is in Kabardinka, a town east of Novorossiysk on the Russian Black Sea coast. But the child had been told that her “holiday” had been extended for at least several more weeks. “I just want her back,” Zinchynko, 42, said in her home town of Balakliya, between Izyum and Kharkiv. She said she was one of hundreds of parents in the same position.

Sophia has told her mother that she is being held with 300 other children from towns in Kharkiv province, all of



Zelensky joins celebrations

Larisa Brown Defence Editor
Marc Bennetts

President Zelensky made an unannounced visit to raise the Ukrainian flag over the liberated town of Izyum as Kyiv celebrated recapturing almost 3,100 square miles of territory.

Zelensky, above, said that Ukrainian forces were carrying out “stabilisation measures”, including rounding up those who were complicit in the invasion. “Full security is being restored,” he said. Russian forces are on the defensive after Ukrainian troops broke through the front lines and pushed them out of Kharkiv province in the past week.

Kyiv officials said that 150,000 Ukrainians had been freed from occupation in the push.

British intelligence said Russia had deployed Iranian “kamikaze” drones to the front line for the first time, as the invaders had to rely on equipment from rogue states as their stockpiles were depleted.

Ukrainian forces claimed they had shot down an Iranian-made Shahed-136 drone near Kupiansk on Tuesday. An image suggested it failed to detonate on impact.

The unexpected Russian defeats have prompted criticism among usually loyal online audiences and commentators. Gennady Zyuganov, the leader of the Communist Party, called for a “maximum mobilisation” to fight a “full-fledged war” against Ukraine and its Nato allies. It emerged that as the war began Putin rejected a provisional peace proposal offered by the Kremlin’s chief Ukraine envoy, instead ordering troops further into Ukraine.

to have been used to separate parents from children, some of whom are said to have been put up for adoption in Russia.

Zinchynko said that in Balakliya the Russian authorities had exploited parents’ fears for their children’s safety as Ukrainian forces began to bombard Russian positions.

“We are all terrified,” she said, crying on the pavement near her family’s eighth-floor apartment. “The shells were whistling everywhere. They promised to take the children to the seaside for a holiday, to save them from the fighting.”

She said 25 families from Balakliya took the offer. Now she cannot believe she agreed. “We have just been to a meeting for the families with Ukrainian officials. She said they would do what they could but we had been dumb.”

Balakliya was the initial target of the Ukrainian counter-offensive in the Kharkiv region. A town that was becoming more prosperous, with one of Ukraine’s largest cement factories, its main bridge was blown up by Russians as they retreated last week, and the buildings where Russian troops were billeted are marked by the destruction wrought by Ukrainian artillery.

Zinchynko said Sophia was trying to keep in good spirits, though the “holiday” had not turned out to be what she expected — the beach was rough and the children were told they could not go swimming “because of the jellyfish”.

Among the other 300 children are scores from Izyum and Kupiansk, the other two big towns retaken by the Ukrainian army. Zinchynko said she could not say if the children were taken away to be used as hostages by the Russians, fearing that the towns were about to be subject to a counter-attack.

She said she wanted to go to the border to appeal for her daughter’s return in person. But Russia still occupies thousands of square miles of territory between Balakliya and the Black Sea border between the two countries. “We have to just stay here for the coming days and wait,” she said.

Ilze Brands Kehris, the UN’s assistant secretary-general for human rights, told its security council last week that the Russians had introduced an accelerated process to grant citizenship to unaccompanied children, and said such children would be eligible for adoption.

“We are particularly concerned that the announced plans of the Russian authorities to allow the movement of children from Ukraine to families in the Russian Federation do not appear to include steps for family reunification or in other ways ensure respect for the principle of the best interests of the child.” Zelensky has his Gettysburg moment, David Aaronovitch, page 27



Sophia Zinchynko, 11, is being held in Russia, apart from her mother, Alla

which have been retaken in Ukraine’s lightning offensive in the past week.

“I want to scream at the whole world,” Zinchynko said. “I would do anything to see her again. When I text her, all I really want to do is hug her.”

The United Nations demanded last week that Russia allow humanitarian workers access to thousands of children taken from occupied parts of Ukraine.

Russia says three million Ukrainian citizens have been moved from areas it captured in February and March, many to Russia itself. It claims they volunteered to seek refuge, but has not permitted the Red Cross or similar organisations access to them.

There have been particular concerns about the number of children involved who appear to be unaccompanied by their families. Some were taken from orphanages, but various means appear



MoMA’s virtual art funded with sale of the real thing

Ever since the dark days of 2020, far fewer visitors have passed into the bright halls of the Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan than before the pandemic

(Will Pavia writes). All the while, however, the museum has been doing awfully well online, mounting virtual exhibitions, staging chats with its curators and posting videos on YouTube. Now, 29 artworks

that have long been loaned to the museum by a supportive foundation are to be sold to help fund an expansion to pull in the virtual crowds.

A Francis Bacon triptych featuring the artist’s Soho friend and drinking partner Henrietta Moraes, a still life by Pierre-Auguste Renoir of strawberries on a white table cloth and Pablo Picasso’s *Guitare sur une table* will be sold by the William S Paley

Customer holds up Beirut bank to get her savings
Page 34



Women must listen to embryo's heartbeat before they can have an abortion
Page 35



Brazil fears that Bolsonaro won't get on his bike

Brazil

Stephen Gibbs Sao Paulo

Brazil's bombastic right-wing president has said he will have "nothing more to do on Earth" if he loses the country's election next month.

President Bolsonaro, speaking on a podcast, adopted a notably downbeat tone in a week in which all polls have put him well behind his left-wing rival, a fortnight before the first-round vote.

The latest survey, by Quaest, showed the incumbent on 34 per cent and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the former president, on 42 per cent — a slight narrowing of the gap from the previous week's poll. If neither candidate receives more than 50 per cent of the vote on October 2, a run-off will be held on October 30.

Bolsonaro, a maverick former army captain who once said Brazil would "change only on the day that we break out in civil war", has often hinted in the past year that he will not accept the result if he loses, claiming, without evidence, that the country's electronic voting system is unreliable.

He has also characterised his opponent Lula, who was jailed in 2018 for corruption and spent 580 days in prison before the charges were annulled, of being hellbent on "destroying Brazil".

That made Bolsonaro's seemingly defeatist comments on Monday particularly striking. For the first time since the campaign began, he seemed to contemplate political retirement. "If it is God's will, I will continue. If not, we'll pass on the presidential sash, and I'll retire," he said. He has previously said his post-election options were "victory, prison or death".

Some have argued that the conciliatory comments were calculated to shore up support beyond his core base in order to get over the crucial first-round hurdle. "It seems to me all part of the act. He needs to reach out to moderate voters like never before", Guilherme Casaroes, a professor of political science at Fundacao Getulio Vargas in Sao Paulo, said.

There have been other signs in recent days that Bolsonaro, 67, who is notorious for outrageous comments, has been reminded that appearing conventional can also be a vote-winner. It was only last week that he boasted to thousands of supporters about his enduring virility with his wife, who is 27 years younger than him.

He was one of the first world leaders to confirm that he would attend the Queen's funeral, which means an overseas trip in the run-up to the election. Some have suggested that his enthusiasm was in part driven by a desire to

appear statesmanlike. One of his assistants was heard gloating that his rival Lula would, in contrast, be "left out".

But doubts remain as to whether Bolsonaro will concede defeat, should he lose to an opponent he has long labelled a criminal and a communist. Brian Winter, the editor-in-chief of *Americas Quarterly*, wrote this month: "I do not believe that President Jair Bolsonaro will ever willingly hand over power to his rival in this October's election, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. If Lula wins, as polls currently suggest he will, there will be an institutional crisis in Brazil."

The precise nature of that crisis has been the subject of fevered debate in recent months. A traditional coup is seen as unlikely. Brazil was under military rule from 1964 to 1985, a period Bolsonaro has portrayed as a golden age. But there is no evidence that senior army commanders support directly intervening to keep the president in office. When Bolsonaro sought to turn



Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the former president, holds a lead in all the polls

the September 7 independence day parade into a massive show of military strength, with him in command, the army quietly scaled back its plans.

"Coup d'états have happened in Brazil only when there are three conditions in place — when there is ample support from the economic elite, from big media and from the United States of America," Celso Amorim, 80, who has served as the country's defence minister and foreign minister, said. "I don't think he has any of the three."

Amorim suspects that Bolsonaro may be hoping to create what he described as "confusion" — perhaps calling his supporters on to the streets. An intervention from the security forces could follow before the country entered what he described as "unknown territory".

If beaten next month Bolsonaro might surprise everyone and quietly retire.

But of all the scenarios Brazil faces in the coming weeks, that appears to be the least likely.

Jair Bolsonaro could be riding for a fall as he seeks re-election



MoMA in New York will benefit from the sale by the William S Paley Foundation of Picasso's *Guitare sur une table*, left, as well as works by, from top, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Henri Rousseau and Joan Miro, and Auguste Rodin's sculpture *Les Bourgeois de Calais*, below left



Foundation, the museum said yesterday. Some of the proceeds would go to fund "MoMA's ambitious goals in digital media and technology and to provide for new acquisitions".

Museums typically face controversy if they decide to sell off works from their collections.

But the foundation established to manage the collection of William Paley, the founder of the CBS television network who was president and then chairman of MoMA in the 1970s and 80s, was designed to give it and the museum more flexibility. "His idea was to make it possible for them to decide together, at a future date, how the foundation could best use the paintings to benefit the museum,"

his son, Bill, said. "There was no need to think about controversy because the foundation owns the paintings and has no impediment to selling them."

The foundation wanted to support MoMA as it "does more and more in the digital realm". The museum could count on three million visitors a year before the pandemic. While numbers rose last year, there were still only 1.65 million visitors.

But its website, its YouTube channel and its social media channels reached 35 million people.

The Bacon triptych is to be sold at Sotheby's in London on October 14, where it is expected to raise at least \$30 million. The Picasso is expected to sell at Sotheby's in New York in November for \$20-30 million, along with the Renoir, which may reach up to \$4 million. Museums are right to sell, leading article, page 31

World



In the red The autumnal foliage of kochia scoparia, also known as fireweed, attracts tourists to an archaeological park in Xi'an in China's central Shaanxi province

Fading love for marriage fuels crisis in ageing Japan

Japan

Richard Lloyd Parry Tokyo

Record numbers of young Japanese have given up on marriage, research has shown, in a blow to efforts to halt the country's falling birthrate and shrinking population.

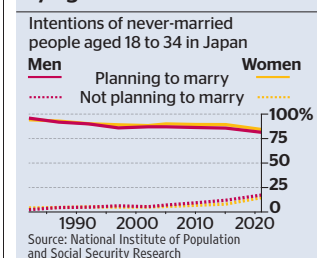
An annual survey by a government think tank shows that 17 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women aged between 18 and 34 — about one in six and one in seven respectively — do not intend to get married.

Separate data shows that the lifetime unmarried rate — the percentage of people who have never married by the age of 50 — is 26 per cent for men and 16 per cent for women.

The figures are the highest since the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research began surveys in 1982. They confirm a long-running and seemingly unstoppable trend of declining rates of marriage and birth, resulting in a shrinking and ageing population that has the potential to break government finances in the long term.

The pace of the demographic decline is outstripping the already gloomy predictions of official agencies. In 1947 there were 934,000 marriages in Japan. By 2000, it had fallen to 798,000 and

Tying the knot?



last year to 501,000 — a drop partly attributable to the pandemic.

Japan's birthrate is lower than at the end of the 19th century at 1.3 live births for each woman in her lifetime. A level of 2.1 is necessary to maintain the population.

The latest figures from the Japanese government show that the country's population fell below 126 million last year, a drop of 726,000, equivalent to the population of Leeds.

It reached a peak of 128.1 million in 2008. The institute forecasts that the population will fall below 100 million by 2048 and to 87 million in 2060.

As the birth rate shrinks, people are living longer. Government finances will face a crisis as a shrinking number of young taxpayers have to support a growing proportion of elderly people. From 2030, labour shortages are projected to reduce economic growth by an average of 0.3 per cent a year.

Other research suggests that married and unmarried Japanese are not having sex as much as they once did, and that a quarter of young people are virgins. Some believe it is linked to the poor quality of sex education and the decline of traditional matchmakers.

Others say it is because of young Japanese socialising in groups and the rise of *hikikomori*, or social recluses.

Some research suggests that much of the problem comes down to money. Salaries among male workers have declined since the Eighties, but research shows women's expectations of income in a partner are unrealistically high.

Customer holds up Beirut bank to demand her savings for sick sister

Lebanon

Shayma Bakht

A Lebanese woman held up a bank branch with what she described as a toy pistol yesterday to recover \$13,000 of her savings to pay for her sister's cancer treatment.

Sali Hafez stormed a branch of Blom Bank in Beirut with the realistic-looking firearm and a group of activists. They were protesting about currency controls imposed because of the national financial crisis. The activists, from the advocacy group Depositors' Outcry, forced bank employees to hand over \$12,000 and the equivalent of about \$1,000 in Lebanese pounds.

Nadine Nakhal, a customer at the bank, said that the group "doused gasoline everywhere inside, and took out a lighter and threatened to light it". She said Hafez threatened to shoot the manager if she did not receive her money.

The weapon Hafez used was a toy pistol that belonged to her nephew. She

said that she was forced into extreme action after she was repeatedly prevented from withdrawing the money.

It is the second hostage situation at a Lebanese bank in weeks, as millions of people continue to be locked out of their accounts because of strict limits on withdrawals of foreign currency, which were introduced in 2019.

Lebanon has struggled for more than two years to lift its banking sector and economy out of the worst financial crisis for 150 years. The country has so far failed to reach an agreement with the International Monetary Fund on a recovery programme that would unlock billions of dollars in international loans and aid.

Depositors' Outcry has started legal action to recover members' money, but has mostly been unsuccessful. "I had begged the branch manager before for my money, and I told him my sister was dying," Hafez told the television station Al Jadeed. "I reached a point where I had nothing else to lose," Hafez said she



Sali Hafez entered the branch of Blom Bank carrying her nephew's toy pistol

could withdraw only \$200 a month in Lebanese pounds, despite having a total of \$20,000 in savings at the bank's Sodeco branch. She said that she had already sold her personal belongings and had considered selling her kidney

to fund her 23-year-old sister's treatment.

Security forces arrested several of the activists, including a man carrying what looked like a handgun.

"I did not break into the bank to kill anyone or set the place on fire," Hafez said in a livestreamed video on Facebook. "I am here to get my rights." She has been celebrated as a hero on social media in Lebanon, where about three quarters of the population have slipped into poverty during the crisis.

The incident occurred weeks after a food delivery driver broke into another bank in Beirut and held ten people hostage for seven hours, demanding tens of thousands of dollars of trapped savings.

Blom Bank said in a statement it had been "subjected to an armed intrusion this morning by one of the branch's clients" who "threw gasoline at the employees and those inside the branch, threatening to burn them". The bank said Hafez had not visited the branch for a year and a half before this week.

EU spy chief cancels Taiwan trip after leak to China

Taiwan

Michael Evans, Didi Tang

A plan by the European Union's spy chief to visit Taiwan in secret was scrapped after Beijing learnt of the trip and put pressure on the EU to cancel it.

Jose Casimiro Morgado, the Portuguese head of the EU's intelligence services, had been due to fly to Taiwan next month, two months after Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the US House of Representatives, made her visit. That

trip provoked an aggressive retaliation by China around Taiwan, including the launching of ballistic missiles.

Two European diplomats who knew of the planned trip by Morgado said that the details appeared to have been leaked to Beijing, according to the news website Politico.

EU officials attempted to downplay the trip. One official said Morgado was only intending to hold meetings with Taiwanese officials on the phone. This less controversial form of contact was

also cancelled after Beijing's reaction to Pelosi's trip. Peter Stano, spokesman for EU foreign affairs and security policy, said: "As a general rule we never comment in public on anything related to the daily business of the European external action service."

Beijing opposes any form of official exchanges between Taiwan and countries with diplomatic ties to China. The EU is China's largest trading partner.

Morgado is director of the intelligence and situation centre which is part

of the European external action service. He took over the spy chief role in 2019 and answers directly to Josep Borrell, high representative for foreign affairs and security policy.

The US Senate foreign relations committee is to vote on a bill that would significantly expand arms supplies to Taiwan and impose sanctions on top Chinese officials, including President Xi, "should China be engaged in a significant escalation in hostile action in or against Taiwan".

Women must listen to embryo's heartbeat before an abortion

Hungary

David Crossland Berlin

Women in Hungary seeking an abortion must first listen to the heartbeat of the embryo under a decree due to come into force today.

The move by Viktor Orban's government signals a tightening of the country's relatively liberal abortion laws by obliging doctors to present the woman with the vital signs of the embryo or foetus. Abortion is permitted in Hungary up to the 12th week of pregnancy

on medical or social grounds, or later if there are severe health complications.

"Almost two thirds of Hungarians associate the beginning of a child's life with the first heartbeat," states the decree issued by Sandor Pinter, the interior minister. The ministry said modern devices could detect heartbeats early in pregnancy and provide "more comprehensive information for pregnant women". When seeking an abortion a woman will have to present a medical certificate stating that "the factors indicating the presence of the

embryo's vital functions have been brought to her attention in a clear manner".

One right-wing MP called it a "chance for life", but human rights organisations said the change would increase pressure on women already in a difficult situation with an unwanted pregnancy. The idea of making women listen to the embryo's heart originated in the Hungarian far-right Mi Hazánk (Our Homeland) party.

Hungary's abortion laws, which have not changed since 1992, had been con-

sidered liberal when compared with European countries such as Poland, where abortion is permitted only when a woman's life is in danger or the pregnancy is the result of a criminal act.

In Germany abortion is still technically illegal, although permissible if women have counselling first. Women in Hungary must also complete a counselling session before they can have an abortion but Noa Nogradi, from Patent, a women's rights organisation, said the sessions had become more confrontational and harder to arrange. According

to Nogradi, the new law is part of a drive to increase the birthrate.

An Ipsos poll in August showed that 70 per cent of Hungarians believed abortion should be legal in almost all cases before the 20th week.

Cardiac activity can be detected after about six weeks of pregnancy but medical experts say the term "foetal heartbeat" is misleading because at that stage no heart has developed. The audible beats are generated by the ultrasound machine that translates electrical pulses from the embryo into sound.

Pastries, biofuel and beer ... le pain quotidien gets second life

France

Charles Bremner Paris

For years the French have ignored an old belief that throwing away bread brings bad luck.

However, bakers and the authorities are waking up to the waste caused by the devotion to oven-fresh bread and are giving stale baguettes new life as pastry, beer and even green electricity.

Moves are afoot to recover and recycle the huge quantities of bread that go unsold when fresh batches overtake them at the country's supermarkets and 33,000 artisanal boulangeries, or when it is discarded from family tables as yesterday's bread.

Every person throws out the equivalent of nine baguettes a year, and bakers bin up to 15 per cent of their daily production, wasting 50,000 tonnes a year. Cereal products make up a quarter of all food waste, Moulins Centre Atlantique, a flour milling company, said.

At fault is the French attachment to fresh crusty bread at every meal. *Le pain traditionnel français* dries out quickly because baguettes and other loaves conform to an appellation law that stipulates the use only of bakers' flour, salt and water, without additives or deep-freezing of ingredients.

Bakers are grinding down unsold loaves into breadcrumbs and using the recycled flour to bake *pain d'hier et de demain* — yesterday's and tomorrow's bread — or to make patisseries.

"Wasting bread is not just socially unbearable but it's an economic and environmental aberration," Christophe Michalak, a celebrity pâtissier in Paris, said. Michalak has cut his losses of daily

bread production from 30 per cent to 5 per cent by selling a *pain malin* — "smart bread" — and a caramel and chocolate pastry called *rose of the sands*, both made from recycled crumbs, he told *Le Monde*.

The star of the push for second-life bread is Franck Wallet, 38, a former town planner from Bordeaux who invented a grinder that can convert 100kg of bread per hour into "magic powder" for bread, pastries, biscuits and pizza dough. More than 250 bakeries have bought his "le crumbler" machines for more than €2,000 each. "Our clients save on average two to three tonnes of bread a year," he said.

"Food waste is shocking in all sectors but I realised that it was enormous with bread. The problem comes from bakers' shops, supermarkets and restaurants. I discovered that even charities were throwing away bread because they were being given too much."

Mulhouse, a city near the German and Swiss borders, has scored a hit with bread deposit containers in its squares. Locals piled them so full that the council gave up trying to distribute them as animal feed and sent them to be turned into biofuel for power stations.

Near Angoulême in the southwest Thomas Lachaniette, an entrepreneur, has teamed up with local boulangeries to produce a range of craft beer called *Les Galopaintes* — a pun combining *pain* with *galopin*, an old word for a rascal. His company website says: "Without getting into the argument about whether beer or bread appeared first on the earth, *Les Galopaintes* aims to reconcile the two close cousins by giving new value to unsold bread."



SILVIO BERLUSCONI/TIKTOK

Known for "bunga-bunga" parties, Silvio Berlusconi said he would not be asking TikTok users "to introduce me to your girlfriends"

"elegant soirées". In 2013 he was found guilty of paying one guest, the underage dancer Karima el-Mahroug, known as Ruby the Heart-Stealer, for sex, but was acquitted on appeal on the grounds that he did not know she was 17.

A temporary ban on entering politics after a tax fraud conviction has been lifted and Berlusconi is campaigning for a seat in the senate in an electoral alliance with the favourite, Giorgia Meloni.

The media mogul and former cruise ship singer began his first TikTok video on September 1 by stating: "Hi kids, here I am." Further posts included a joke about President Biden, President Putin, the Pope and Berlusconi being stuck on a crashing plane without enough parachutes.

He has boasted of getting 9.2 million hits for his first video, but one young Italian social media influencer claimed politicians on TikTok were just being mocked. "Do you think people 'like' you because they back you? No, it's because we are taking the piss out of you," Emma Galeotti, 19, said.

"Politicians: you should disappear from this platform. You already have Instagram and Facebook, but this is nothing to do with you, here you just look stupid," she added.

"We are not so stupid that one video will make us vote for you."

Berlusconi brings some bunga bunga to TikTok

Silvio Berlusconi has reassured Italians that he has joined TikTok to woo voters, not young women (Tom

Kington writes). The former prime minister, 85, who notoriously held "bunga-bunga" parties for young models, made his TikTok debut this month to attract the youth vote in the general election.

In a video posted on Tuesday, he told his 530,000 followers to work hard at school, adding: "Now I turn to those who are over 18. To ask what?

To introduce me to your girlfriends? Not at all! To ask you to vote on September 25, and vote for me."

Berlusconi resigned as prime minister in 2011 amid revelations about his parties where young semi-naked TV stars pole-danced for his pleasure. He is still on trial for bribing his guests to lie in court about the parties he described as

Swedish PM resigns as right-wing bloc claims historic victory

Sweden

David Crossland

Magdalena Andersson, the Swedish prime minister, resigned yesterday and conceded defeat in last weekend's election after it became clear that the right-wing bloc had won by a narrow margin of three parliamentary seats with almost all votes counted.

The outcome was a historic political shift in the traditionally liberal nation as support for the Sweden Democrats, a

party with neo-Nazi roots, surged. It emerged as the second biggest force in parliament, and the biggest in the right-wing bloc, ahead of the Moderate Party, which leads the conservative camp.

Jimmie Akesson, 43, leader of the Sweden Democrats, has the role of kingmaker and began talks with the leaders of the other three parties of the right. He said his party would be a constructive and driving force in re-establishing safety in Sweden and that it was "time to put Sweden first". A key ques-

tion will be whether he will demand cabinet posts or settle for his party staying out of government and supporting a right-wing minority administration.

The latter scenario is seen as more likely, with Ulf Kristersson, the Moderate Party leader, expected to become prime minister. However, he will struggle to hold together the parties, which are bitterly divided on some issues.

Andersson, whose Social Democrats remained the largest party with just over 30 per cent of the vote, said it stood

ready to take over if the right-wing alliance crumbled. "I am concerned how the development in Sweden will be in the coming years," she said. "We don't know how the government will form and they will have a very close margin in parliament. As Social Democrats we will always be ready to take power."

Sweden is destined to become less open to immigration, impose tougher rules on minorities and embrace nuclear power, analysts said. What is unlikely to change is its path towards

Nato membership and higher defence spending, which have broad support after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The Sweden Democrats were long shunned by Swedes after the white power movements of the late 1980s. Akesson moved to tone down the party's rhetoric including replacing its original torch logo with a blue flower. It benefited from public concern over a rise in fatal shootings and gang violence. Rise of hard right shatters Sweden's dream, Iain Martin, page 29

World

Bit of artist's bedroom wall fetches \$140,000

A pretty little brick house in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, is worth about \$270,000, according to a property website. This, however, may not take into account the fact that it was once the home of the artist Keith Haring (Will Pavia writes).

Yesterday a small piece of wall and a light switch from Haring's old bedroom sold for more than half the estimated value of the house. On the wall Haring had drawn a version of his motif *Radiant Baby* in gold pen. Cut out by a carpenter, it sold for \$143,750 at an auction house in New Jersey.

The sellers, Angela and Scott Garner, first saw the sketch while looking for a home in

2004. The woman who owned the house showed them round, and looking into a cupboard, Scott, a chauffeur, noticed some Haring posters and asked her about them.

Angela Garner said: "She said, 'You do know that Keith Haring grew up here?' My husband and I, our hearts started to beat really fast." He was one of their favourite artists, she added.

The owner said, breezily, that he "did one of his famous tags, of *Radiant Baby*, in his one-time bedroom", Scott Garner said. "I thought, 'Wow, I want this house.'"

Haring, who was born in 1958, left home at 18, first for Pittsburgh then New York, where he made



his name with thousands of drawings of cartoonish figures in chalk on empty black advertising panels in subway stations. By the time of his

death, from Aids-related complications in 1990, his work was in museums worldwide.

His father, Allen, told the Garners that Haring drew a *Radiant Baby* on

a return visit to the house. "Somebody had given him a gold pen, from England," Scott Garner said. It had been drawn when the walls were

Keith Haring, below, drew the *Radiant Baby* on the wall of his childhood home. It was sold with the light switch

painted blue. A later owner repainted the bedroom, and nearly painted over the Haring, hesitating at the last minute, judging by a yellow smudge near the baby's head.

The artist's parents "loved that we appreciated the history of his house", Scott Garner said.

The couple decided to sell the work to help pay for their son to go to university. Yesterday it quickly surpassed its estimate of \$40,000 to \$50,000. Christine Isabelle

Oaklander, an art historian, said the drawing was "really a tag that this was Keith Haring's room".

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Strikes and soaring prices give Biden midterm jitters

United States

David Charter Washington

The threat of strikes and persistently high inflation are casting a cloud over President Biden's hopes that the Democrats can maintain a grip on Congress at the midterm elections.

Last-minute talks are under way between Marty Walsh, the labour secretary, and rail unions to try to head off a freight train strike that would disrupt supply chains just as early voting is about to start for the November elections. In Minnesota 15,000 nurses walked out this week.

Amtrak, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, said last night that it had cancelled all long-distance passenger trains from today in anticipation of a freight strike.

Momentum shifted towards Biden's Democratic Party over the summer among voters angered by the US Supreme Court ruling to end the 49-year federal right to abortion. However, this week Biden, 79, was hit by unexpectedly high inflation

figures, up 8.3 per cent in a year, that sent the stock market plummeting.

Food, energy, carmaker and retail groups have urged Congress to intervene in the rail talks and said that a freight shutdown could freeze almost a third of US cargo, threatening everything from grain supplies to shipments of goods for Christmas. This could push up inflation, hit food and fuel supplies, and cost the economy an estimated \$2 billion a day.

Railways have until a minute after midnight tomorrow to reach deals with three unions representing about 60,000 workers seeking better pay and working conditions.

The Corn Refiners Association and the National Corn Growers Association said that a work stoppage would "cripple US agricultural production and supply chains and exacerbate food price inflation". About a quarter of American grain shipments are made by rail.

Republicans are hoping to overturn slim Democratic majorities in the House of Representatives and the

Senate on November 8. Republicans are on course for a modest majority in the House, according to polls. Their prospects of claiming the single extra Senate seat they need may, however, be hampered by the choice of some extreme pro-Trump candidates who support the former president's claim that the 2020 election was stolen.

New Hampshire Republicans chose Don Bolduc, who said Trump won the election, over the establishment candidate, Chuck Morse. A Democratic group spent over \$3 million on TV adverts to attack Morse and boost Bolduc, feeling he would be an easier candidate for Maggie Hassan, the incumbent senator, to beat.

Democrat-held Senate seats in the swing states of Arizona, Georgia and Nevada, that should be winnable for Republicans in a typical midterm vote, are shaping up to be tougher battles. The Democrats are mounting stronger campaigns than expected in Republican-held seats against pro-Trump candidates in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Win a gun in the girls' softball raffle

Hugh Tomlinson

A raffle for a girls' softball league in Texas is offering prizes that include an AR-15-style semi-automatic rifle and a Glock pistol.

Several parents complained after discovering that the Montgomery County Girls Softball League was to offer the weapons at its autumn fundraiser.

"I was shocked. It's really upsetting to me," said Jessica England, whose daughters have played softball for several years.

The league's end-of-season tournament commonly features raffles with prizes donated by local businesses, such as premium

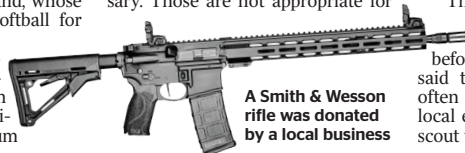
parking spots. This year, for \$25 a ticket or \$100 for five, parents were told they could win a Smith & Wesson 15T II semi-automatic rifle and a Glock 17 pistol.

"I don't think it's appropriate for a children's activity to be raffling off this type of weapon," England told the Houston broadcaster KRPC-TV. "They wouldn't raffle off a liquor and tobacco basket, they wouldn't raffle off a gift card to a [cannabis] dispensary. Those are not appropriate for

children's activities and I don't think this is either." She was among several parents who pointed out that the raffle was being held not long after the mass shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, 300 miles west of Montgomery County.

"Not even four months ago, 19 children and two teachers were gunned down using a semi-automatic assault rifle just like the one being raffled here," England said.

The Montgomery softball league said all winners would have to pass a background check before receiving guns. KRPC-TV said that Montgomery gun shops often donated weapons as prizes to local events, including a raffle for a scout troop.

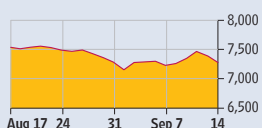


A Smith & Wesson rifle was donated by a local business

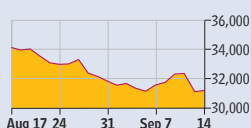
Business

WORLD MARKETS (Change on the day)

FTSE 100
7,277.30 (-108.56) ▼

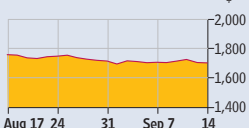


Dow Jones
31,135.09 (+30.12) ▲

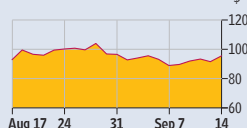


COMMODITIES

Gold
\$1,701.68 (-1.88) ▼

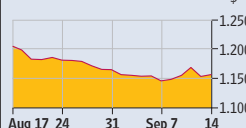


Brent crude (6pm)
\$95.49 (+3.82) ▲

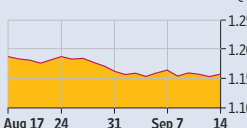


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JEAN-FRANÇOIS BADIAS/AP

Google hit with record €4bn fine over abuse

Android appeal ruling 'will embolden EU'

Katie Prescott
Technology Business Editor
Jonathan Ames Legal Editor

Google lost an appeal in one of Europe's leading courts yesterday against a record multibillion-euro fine for abusing its dominance of the Android mobile phone ecosystem, paving the way for further claims.

Although the penalty was cut by nearly 5 per cent to €4.1 billion from €4.3 billion, after the court ruled against one of the original infringements, it remains the largest ever handed down by a competition authority in Europe and it still ruled that Google had acted intentionally.

The case began in 2015 over Google limiting competition on Android mobile phone and tablet manufacturers by requiring them to install its search app and web browser in order to access its Play app store and, as a result, its full suite of apps. It also prevented companies from selling devices programmed with different versions of Android.

It agreed "revenue share agreements" with the makers of mobile devices and the mobile network operators if they agreed not to pre-install competing search services "to ensure that traffic on Android devices goes to the Google search engine", Margrethe Vestager, the competition commissioner, said.

Google's search engine is where the technology group obtains the vast majority of its revenues, so structuring the Android system in this way, the commission found, was undertaken to try to support this business during the shift of internet searches from desktop PCs to mobile devices.

According to court documents, in July 2018 about 80 per cent of smartphones and tablets used worldwide ran on the Android system, which was bought by Google in 2005. The original fine was issued in the same year and the amount "takes due account of the need

to impose on Google a fine that has a deterrent effect", the ruling said. It came with requirements allowing phone manufacturers and telecoms providers to install non-Google apps on their devices.

Google appealed against the original decision, arguing that Android had enabled innovation, greater choice and lower prices and that users could download alternatives to their programs.

Yesterday the General Court in Luxembourg said it "largely confirms the commission's decision that Google imposed unlawful restrictions on manufacturers of Android mobile devices and mobile network operators in order to consolidate the dominant position of its search engine".

A Google spokeswoman said: "We are disappointed that the court did not annul the decision in full. Android has created more choice for everyone, not less, and supports thousands of successful businesses in Europe and around the world." The company can now appeal again to Europe's Court of Justice; however, it is understood to be taking some time to review its position before deciding on the next steps.

Andrea Hamilton, a partner in the City office of Milbank, the American law firm, said: "Regardless of whether Google/Alphabet appeal to the Court of Justice of the EU, the General Court's decision is likely to embolden the commission's approach to enforcement regarding Big Tech at a time when the Digital Markets Act, which itself sets out new rules for how large digital platforms operate, will soon take effect.

"Effects could also be felt beyond the EU, as regulators are increasingly collaborating in the development of enforcement in key areas, such as digital markets."

Caroline Harbord, a regulation specialist at Forsters, a law firm, said: "Not only is the hefty fine bad news for Google in and of itself, the upholding of the European Court's decision that

Continued on page 40, col 1



Olena Zelenska, the first lady of Ukraine, was the guest of honour at the European parliament in Strasbourg yesterday

Brussels price cap to ease energy crisis

Bruno Waterfield Brussels
Adam Sage Paris

The European Union will move to cap electricity prices and will levy windfall taxes on energy companies, raising €140 billion, to ease the impact of a looming winter energy crisis caused by the war in Ukraine.

Ursula von der Leyen, the European Commission president, set out the unprecedented support measures to intervene in energy markets and appealed to everyone across Europe to rally behind Kyiv, despite the economic hardships ahead.

The commission tabled regulations for a windfall tax on oil, gas, coal and refining companies, as well as a cap on electricity prices, with revenues to be used to support consumers. The commission also will set mandatory targets to cut power use and provide financial assistance for generating companies struggling with wholesale gas prices.

"We are proposing a cap on the revenues of companies that produce electricity at a low cost," von der Leyen said in a reference to renewable, wind, solar or hydro power, as well as nuclear or coal-fired generators.

"These companies are making reve-

nues they never accounted for, they never even dreamt of. In these times it is wrong to receive extraordinary record profits benefiting from war and on the back of consumers."

The electricity revenue price cap will be set at €180 per megawatt-hour, well below present prices for many European countries, such as €456 per MWh in Germany. Under the proposals, the oil, gas, coal and refinery sectors will pay "a temporary solidarity contribution based on taxable surplus profits made in the fiscal year 2022".

In France, President Macron's government said it would spend a further €16 billion to cap energy prices next year, on top of the €29 billion it has already paid out. However, the cap will be lifted partially, leading to a 15 per cent rise in electricity and gas prices next year, Elisabeth Borne, the French prime minister, said in Paris yesterday. The French have been largely shielded from the energy crisis, with electricity prices increasing by 4 per cent this year and gas prices frozen since last October.

The moves will add to the pressure on Liz Truss to do more to help consumers and industry in the UK ahead of an expected "mini budget" next week.

Speaking alongside Olena Zelenska,

the first lady of Ukraine, von der Leyen warned of a difficult winter but insisted that the price was worth paying to defend democracy. "The months ahead will not be easy, be it for families struggling to make ends meet or businesses who are facing tough choices about their future. Let's be very clear: much is at stake here. Not just for Ukraine but for all of Europe and the world at large," she told MEPs during her annual "state of the union" speech in Strasbourg.

Von der Leyen said: "This is not only a war unleashed by Russia against Ukraine. This is a war on our energy, a war on our economy, a war on our values and a war on our future."

Last night one of the biggest investors in the US shale industry warned it cannot rescue Europe with increased oil and gas supplies this winter. "There's no bailout coming," Wil VanLoh, head of private equity group Quantum Energy Partners, the private equity firm, told the *Financial Times*.

● A harsh winter could lead to social unrest in Europe, the head of the International Monetary Fund warned yesterday. Kristalina Georgieva said: "If Mother Nature decides not to co-operate, and the winter is harsh, that could lead to some social unrest."

Business

Need to know

1 No 10 has admitted businesses may have to wait until November for support with their energy bills because of the complexity of the scheme. Household will have energy bills capped at £2,500 a year from October 1. Businesses will be offered "equivalent" support for at least six months as part of a £150 billion package. **Page 16**

2 Google lost its appeal in one of Europe's top courts against a record fine for abusing its dominance of the Android mobile phone system, paving the way for further claims. The €4.1 billion penalty is the largest ever handed down by a competition authority in Europe. **Pages 37, 40**

3 The European Union will move to cap electricity prices and to levy windfall taxes on energy companies, raising €140 billion, to ease the impact of a winter energy crisis caused by the Ukraine war. **Page 37**

4 Money markets have shortened the odds on the Bank of England announcing its largest ever rise in interest rates. Bets were placed on a 75-basis-point rise in the Bank rate next week after official figures revealed rises in core inflation, food prices and services costs.

5 Hornby, the company behind Scalextric and Airfix models, indicated it had not fully complied with stock market disclosure rules regarding related-party transactions with a company owned by Lyndon Davies, its executive chairman.

6 House prices rose by 15.5 per cent in the year to July, the biggest jump in nearly two decades, and rental costs are growing at a record pace. The Office for National Statistics said that the average price of a home had risen by £39,000 in the past year to £292,000. **Page 40**

7 SoftBank is weighing up whether to launch a third investment fund for start-ups as the Japanese conglomerate seeks to draw a line under record losses. Executives have held discussions over how to proceed after Masayoshi Son, its billionaire founder, pledged to move forward with care. **Pages 42-43**

8 Naked Wines faces an uncertain future after fresh question marks over its finances and a sudden boardroom exit sent its shares tumbling by more than a third. **Page 43**

9 Terry Smith has abandoned his eight-year attempt to pick stock market winners in emerging markets. Smith's firm has given notice to resign as manager of the £319 million Fundsmith Emerging Equities Trust, which is to shut and return cash to investors. **Page 44**

10 Rio Tinto and its biggest customer are to invest \$2 billion in a new iron ore mine in Western Australia. The miner said it would take a 54 per cent stake in a joint venture to develop the Western Range project in the Pilbara region. It will invest \$1.3 billion under the deal, with China Baowu Steel Group stumping up \$700 million. **Page 45**

Record interest rate rise on the cards as price pressures grow

Mehreen Khan Economics Editor

Money markets have increased their expectations that the Bank of England is poised to announce its largest ever rise in interest rates after inflation data showed price pressures growing throughout the British economy last month.

Bets were placed on a 75-basis-point rise in the Bank rate next week after official figures revealed rises in core inflation, food prices and services costs.

Figures from the Official for National Statistics showed a dip in headline consumer prices inflation to 9.9 per cent in the year to August, a drop from 10.1 per cent the previous month and defying widespread expectations of another rise.

However, measures of underlying inflation, which strip out volatile energy prices, rose in August. Food and clothing drove the bulk of the increase, while petrol prices contributed to the fall in the headline rate after a drop in global crude oil prices this summer. A measure of core inflation that strips out food and energy increased by ten basis points to 6.3 per cent last month.

Julian Jessop, at the Institute of Economic Affairs, the think tank, said it was "far too soon to sound the all clear" on inflation and he called for the Bank to raise rates by a bumper 75 basis points, after similar steps by the US Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank in the past month.

"The Bank has more work to do to get inflation back down to the 2 per cent target. The Bank's monetary policy committee therefore needs to be bolder to restore credibility. Raising rates by 75 basis points at the re-scheduled meeting next week, rather than the expected 50 basis points, would still leave rates at the historically low level of 2.5 per cent," Jessop said.

The MPC, which sets interest rates, will meet next Thursday, ahead of a probable announcement from

Petrol rises have eased, to the relief of consumers



Hope in wholesale index

Wholesale prices in the United States declined for a second consecutive month in August as petrol prices continued to fall (Callum Jones writes).

America's producer prices index fell by 0.1 per cent, having slipped by 0.4 per cent in July. It is the first time there have been consecutive monthly falls in the readings since the spring of 2020.

On an annual basis, the index rose by 8.7 per cent; its smallest increase in a year.

The reading was published a day after the latest consumer prices index report rattled markets, falling back by less than expected to 8.3 per cent.

Policy makers at the US Federal Reserve are widely expected to order another aggressive increase in interest rates next week as they move to bring down rampant price growth. The central bank's target for inflation is 2 per cent.

Matthew Martin, at Oxford Economics, the consultancy, said: "While the PPI report suggests inflation is decelerating in parts of the economy, broad-based increases in Wednesday's CPI show that consumer inflation remains stubbornly persistent."

"The CPI report keeps the Fed on track to raise rates 75 basis points next week and at least another 75 basis points by the end of the year."

the chancellor about the government's emergency energy package to alleviate the soaring cost of living. The Bank raised interest rates by its highest single amount in August at 50 basis points, double its usual increment of 25 basis points.

Modupe Adegbenbo, an economist at AXA Investment Managers, said the Bank was likely to raise rates by 75 basis points next week.

"Rising core inflation, continued tightening in the labour market and a consideration of sterling weakness will see the MPC step up their pace of tightening. The risk of a smaller 50-basis-point move in September remains and the easing of inflation will keep the option firmly on the table," she said.

A price cap for household energy bills from October for two years will help to bring down headline inflation rates substantially, according to economists who expect headline inflation to peak at about 11 per cent this autumn and to fall back next year.

Modelling from the National Institute for Economic and Social Research found that a measure of underlying inflation, which strips out the most extreme price changes, rose to a record of 7.8 per cent in August.

The research institute said that approximately 20,000 items in its inflation basket had increased in price last month and that all 12 regions of the UK had suffered from higher underlying inflation.

"Elevated inflation continues to burn a hole through consumer pockets, drag on economic growth and intensify economic uncertainty," Urvis Patel, an associate economist at the NIESR, said.

Petrol and diesel prices inflation eased back from 43.7 per cent to 32.1 per cent between July and August, according to the national statistics office, while food prices rose by 1.5 per cent. Core inflation was driven marginally higher by services inflation rising to 6.7 per cent. Goods inflation fell back from highs hit during the pandemic.

Benjamin Nabarro, chief UK economist at Citi, said the inflation data did not show signs that price growth was becoming "entrenched" in the economy. He suggested that the MPC would continue to repeat its intent to act "forcefully" if there was evidence of a price spiral.

"Today's inflation data have failed to deliver a nasty surprise. We see little in these data to suggest that inflation is becoming entrenched or is at greater risk of doing so, tempering any push for a further acceleration," Nabarro said.

"There are growing signs upstream inflationary pressures are now beginning to ease."



You can trust us with the environment, says Patagonia

Katie Prescott

The ownership of Patagonia, the outdoor clothing company, has been transferred to a trust, with all proceeds going to environmental charities.

The Chouinard family, which founded and owned the business, has split its shareholding between two new entities. Patagonia Purpose Trust will oversee the company's strategy, holding 2 per cent of its voting stock; the Holdfast Collective, responsible for the company's economic interest, will hold the remaining 98 per cent and will distribute an annual dividend from any cash that is not reinvested into Patagonia. This is expected to be about \$100 million and will be used to protect nature, promote biodiversity and "fight the environmental crisis", the company said in a statement.

Charles Conn, 61, chairman of Patagonia, said that the business would continue to work to generate a profit and that "this isn't some kind of hippie-tie-dye-running-through-the-flowers thing. It is a serious way of thinking differently about the role of companies in society."

While he is in good health, Yvon Chouinard, the founder, who is 83, and his family wanted a plan in place for the future of the business.

"Like any business with an ageing founder, we explored all kinds of options," Conn said. "You could go public and give the money away. You could sell the company to private equity or another big company, because a company like Patagonia would be worth a fortune, and then give that money away. Then we realised you'd be wrecking the thing that we've made the most impact

Video meetings specialist zooms in on new services

Callum Jones
US Business Correspondent

Zoom is set to diversify into email and digital calendars in an attempt to challenge larger rivals that have sought to dent the video conferencing group's ubiquity for remote workers.

As competitors build up their own video chat services, Zoom is working to broaden its offering. Both Google and Microsoft offer users a suite of online tools, including email and diary services, as well as conferencing platforms.

Zoom could announce the expansion as soon as November, according to The Information, a technology news web-

site, which cited a source with knowledge of the plans and reported that the new services — dubbed "Zmail" and "Zcal" by some staff within Zoom — had been in development for almost two years. The company did not respond to a request for comment.

Zoom Video Communications, founded in 2011 and based in San Jose, California, runs one of the world's biggest video conferencing software platforms. Demand for Zoom surged at the onset of the pandemic, when daily users surged from ten million in December 2019 to 300 million in 2020.

While its shares rose rapidly after the introduction of Covid-19 lockdowns

and the widespread prevalence of remote working for previously office-based companies across the world, they fell back sharply as restrictions were eased and vaccines were distributed.

Shares in Zoom closed up 0.9 per cent, or \$0.73, at \$79.59 in New York last night. They finished February 2020 at \$105 and peaked at \$568.34 in October 2020. It is valued at almost \$24 billion on the stock market.

As employers sought to encourage office staff back to their desks, executives at Zoom have tried to preserve the platform's relevance. While the pandemic magnified its brand, use of the company's services has dropped. Fac-

ing competition from Teams and Slack, acquired by Salesforce in a \$27.7 billion deal last summer, Zoom has been building up its chat and meeting scheduling services. Last month Zoom cut its annual profit and revenue guidance and forecast that its online business would decline by between 7 per cent and 8 per cent.

Kelly Steckelberg, 53, chief financial officer, said: "Zoom remains focused on building out our platform, leading in the hybrid work world, enhancing the customer experience and expanding into more and more business workflows. We will continue to make strategic moves to drive future growth."



Yvon Chouinard, the founder of Patagonia, started selling his own climbing equipment in 1965

with, which is our different behaviour. And so we ended up solving two problems: first, providing stewardship to Patagonia for the next 50 years and, second, releasing more money to fight the environmental crisis now."

Chouinard, an avid rock climber and blacksmith, started selling climbing gear in 1965. After five years Chouinard Equipment was America's biggest supplier of such kit, but he chose to scale back sales of pitons after realising that the metal spikes were disfiguring rock faces.

In 1973 his company began selling clothes for climbing under the Patagonia brand, based in Ventura, California. It has long subscribed to

ethical business practices, committing to donate 10 per cent of its profits to environmental causes in 1986 and subsequently changing this to 1 per cent of sales, which are estimated to have topped \$1 billion.

Customers are encouraged to trade-in used clothes for vouchers and the company repaired more than 100,000 garments in 2020. These green credentials are reflected in the price. Fleeces cost as much as £210 and jackets are up to £450.

Chouinard said: "If we have any hope of a thriving planet 50 years from now, it demands all of us doing all we can with the resources we have. As the business leader I never wanted

to be, I am doing my part. Instead of extracting value from nature and transforming it into wealth, we are using the wealth Patagonia creates to protect the source."

Conn said the family had never lived a life of luxury and so "the idea of giving up wealth was a relief to them, these are very simple, practical people".

The company's employees are another consideration. "I think that they'll be delighted to know that the company is not going to be sold to some other big, heartless company or taken public in some flash-in-the-pan IPO, but that its future is protected for all time," Conn said.

Hornby on track despite rule-breaking

Alex Ralph

The company behind Scalextric and Airfix indicated yesterday that it had not fully complied with stock market disclosure rules regarding related-party transactions with a company owned by its executive chairman.

Hornby bought about £502,000 of stock, tooling and other items from Oxford Diecast, which makes and supplies diecast model vehicles and was owned by LCD Enterprises, a company owned by Lyndon Davies, Hornby's chief executive. LCD was fully acquired by Hornby in July last year.

Although the related-party purchas-

es had been disclosed previously in the company's interim and annual results, they are understood not to have been flagged to Liberum, its nominated adviser, as required under the rules of Aim, the London Stock Exchange's junior stock market.

Having now done so, Liberum has concluded that they were "fair and reasonable insofar as the company's shareholders are concerned".

The statement came alongside a trading update and Hornby's annual shareholder meeting yesterday.

Hornby said its sales and margins had been in line with the previous year and, "as is usually the case in our

industry, the outcome for the full year is subject to the sales rate over the key Christmas trading period".

Hornby also said that its "outstanding order book is very strong and higher than a year ago" and that it had attempted to "mitigate potential supply disruptions this Christmas by bringing forward the shipping dates on key product lines... We remain encouraged by the historic performance of the hobby industry in prior downturns and our expectations for the full year are unchanged."

Shares in Hornby closed up ½p, or 1.8 per cent, at 28½p, leaving them down a third this year.

Big win for Silicon Valley tormentor



BUSINESS COMMENTARY Alistair Osborne

Standing up to Big Tech can seem like peashooter stuff. A top European court has just upheld a record antitrust fine against Google. Its size? €4.13 billion. That'll learn the search engine's parent Alphabet. Last year it had sales of \$258 billion. The group's market value, even after a Fed-fuelled stock rout? \$1.4 trillion.

The fine is no big deterrent. But the decision by the Luxembourg-based General Court still counts as a decent win — not least for EU competition supremo Margrethe Vestager, Silicon Valley's tormentor-in-chief. She's done more than anyone to rein in the strong-arm tactics of America's top tech outfits.

But the reversals were piling up. In January, chipmaker Intel won its appeal against a €1 billion fine. In June, the General Court also nullified a €997 million penalty for wireless tech group Qualcomm. On top, there was 2020's Apple defeat, when the same court overturned Vestager's 2016 ruling that Ireland should claw back €13 billion in unpaid taxes. Another setback would have been a serious blow to her credibility. So, if competition policy is going to work, much was riding on the court's view of her €4.34 billion Google fine.

The case, dating back to 2015, alleged that Google had imposed "illegal restrictions" on the makers of Android devices. A key one? Requiring them to pre-install Google's search and chrome apps on mobile phones and tablets in order to access its "Play" app store. To back things up, it paid manufacturers for complying, while stopping them selling devices with versions of Android "not approved by Google". Yes, the court cut the fine slightly over minor details. But it "largely confirmed" her findings.

Google, which could return to the EU Court of Justice for a higher appeal, hit out at the verdict, arguing that its free Android software had "created more choice for everyone, not less". It's true, too, that it gives it away. But if it controls the apps and all purchases, data and advertising around them, you can see how it's amassed about 30 per cent of the world's ad revenues: \$209 billion last year. As Vestager argued, the barriers Google imposed were designed to stop it losing ad sales as they shifted from PCs to mobiles.

She'd already fined Google €2.4 billion in 2017 for prioritising its own site in shopping comparison searches and €1.49 billion in 2019 for abusive practices via its AdSense advert-brokering business. She's also got inquiries under way, spanning Apple's app store rules, Amazon's online selling practices and Google's ad deal with Facebook-owner Meta.

The Google verdict may bring extra zeal to Vestager's campaign against Big Tech abuses of power. That's no bad thing.

Tullow teaser

Tell Tullow Oil's PR spinner what you think of the boss's stance on his mooted merger with Capricorn Energy and you get a WhatsApp. "Let me know when you're free to chat. Regards Rahul

Dhir (aka 'the delusional CEO')."

It's an admirable approach. But it doesn't change the general thesis. Tullow has just issued its half-year figures and they're decent enough: operating profit up from \$370 million to \$696 million, "solid production" from its African assets, a bunch of cost savings, forecast full-year operating cashflow of \$950 million and news that gearing will be down to 1.5 times by the end of 2022, a year ahead of schedule (report, page 45).

Still, even if the Tullow board does remain "fully committed" to the recommended merger with Capricorn "on the current terms", it doesn't mean everyone else is. When the all-share deal was agreed in June, it valued the combo at £1.4 billion, with Tullow taking 53 per cent and Dhir the top job.

Since then? A quintet of hedge funds have got themselves the votes to more than a fifth of Capricorn shares, while a tenth of Tullow's register has become short-sellers. "You know the M&A playbook," says Dhir ruefully. But the result is that on Tullow shares, up 2 per cent to 50½p, it's now the smaller company, valued at £732 million.

Capricorn Energy, down 2 per cent to 237½p, is valued at £749 million. Why would its investors accept the deal? Add Legal & General and Schroders to the hedgies and 30 per cent are against a deal requiring 75 per cent support.

Dhir points to \$50 million of cost synergies. But Tullow also brings \$2.3 billion net debts. Yet he's right about one thing: "At some point, the spreadsheet has to meet reality." Or, to put it another way: what is Capricorn's substitute for the Tullow deal? It said last week it was "exploring ... alternative transactions". And something is thought to be close.

But Capricorn needs to disclose what it is. Until then, there's tactical logic in Dhir maintaining his deal delusions.

Naked and afraid

Has the Naked Wines board drunk all the stock? How else to explain this sort of nonsense: sneaking out two horror-show updates at 6.11pm and 6.12pm on Tuesday and then refusing to spell out what's gone on? First, news that non-exec Pratham Ravi had quit with "immediate effect" — just three weeks after joining to a fanfare as a representative of one of its top investors, 10 per cent holder Punch Card Capital. Then a garbled statement ominously mentioning the need to "address our credit facility", plus some figure-free hopes to have "headroom" over the second quarter "covenant tests" (report, page 43).

All this, too, from a company fresh from a profits warning in June and the abrupt exit of its finance chief a month later. Maybe chairman Darryl Rawlings and chief executive Nick Devlin know what they're up to. But you can see why the shares collapsed like a drunk — down 38 per cent to 90½p.

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Business



The average price of a house in Wales, with buyers being lured to desirable locations such as Tenby on the Pembrokeshire coast, has reached a record £220,000

House prices rise at fastest rate in 20 years as rental costs boom

Mehreen Khan Economics Editor

House prices rose by 15.5 per cent in the year to July, the biggest jump in nearly two decades, and rental costs are growing at a record pace.

The Office for National Statistics revealed yesterday that the average price of a home had risen by £39,000 in the past year to £292,000, with the pace of growth accelerating at the fastest rate since May 2003.

The increase was caused primarily by a fall in property prices in the same month last year, when the government's stamp duty holiday expired. July's house price growth was almost exactly double the 7.8 per cent recorded in the year to June.

Prices in the booming housing market have been rising despite the recessionary headwinds buffeting the

economy and higher interest rates raising the cost of mortgage lending.

The ONS said private rents had risen by 3.4 per cent in the 12 months to August, the fastest pace since records began in 2005. Rental costs have climbed sharply after stagnating during the pandemic, when many employees no longer needed to be close to their places of work.

"Growth in private rental prices paid by tenants in the UK remained broadly flat between November 2019 and the end of 2020," the ONS said. "The beginning of 2021 saw a slowdown in rental price growth, which was driven by prices in London. This may have been a reflection of a decrease in demand because of the Covid-19 pandemic."

Gareth Atkins, managing director of lettings at Foxtons, said that London

was undergoing a rental market boom. "This August had the highest level of rental demand we've ever seen as London remains one of the most attractive cities to work and live in. This unprecedented demand paired with low supply has pushed prices and budgets up across the capital," he said.

"There are 43 per cent fewer properties available to rent in the London market. This huge imbalance between supply and demand may cause an unseasonably busy fourth quarter."

The average house price in England rose by 16.4 per cent over the year to £312,000. This was followed by Wales, where prices jumped by 17.6 per cent to a record £220,000. Prices rose by 9.9 per cent in Scotland, leading to an average price of £193,000.

The Bank of England, which has raised interest rates to 1.75 per cent

since the end of last year, is on course to tighten rates further next week. The government's emergency energy price cap this autumn is likely to reduce peak inflation this year, but the central bank may be forced into additional monetary tightening to stop the economy from overheating, economists have warned.

Gabriella Dickens, at Pantheon Macroeconomics, the consultancy, said that higher mortgage rates should lead to house prices falling outright in the second half of the year, caused by the increased cost of borrowing.

"We think that house prices will drop by about 2 per cent over the next six months," she said, "and then will start to recover in 2023, particularly if the Bank of England holds back from increasing Bank rate as quickly as investors currently expect."

Redrow not worried as hot market cools down

Dominic Walsh

One of Britain's biggest housebuilders conceded yesterday that soaring inflation was cooling the housing market, but it insisted that the return to pre-Covid levels was "not surprising".

Matthew Pratt, chief executive of Redrow, said that after two years of an extraordinarily strong market, with multiple buyers for most plots, the market was returning to normal.

"It was always going to come to an end at some point and start normalising," he said. "What we are seeing now is what I would consider a normal market, rather than an exceptional market. The fundamentals of the market remain. We've got great sites and we've got a great product."

The pandemic lifted sales as buyers sought bigger homes further from their offices and Pratt, 47, said Redrow had just opened an office in Crawley, West Sussex, to cater for buyers who now commuted on three days a week rather than five. "People are right-sizing," he said. "They're buying bigger properties slightly further away in areas that aren't so expensive. They still want good communications but are happy to have a slightly longer journey."

He played down the impact of more expensive mortgages. "People are making a lot about the mortgage market, but it's still an incredibly competitive market that is incredibly low by historic levels. Most of the customers who buy our homes are going to be onward movers, so come with a larger deposit and tend to get the best deal. There's ultimately still an undersupply of houses across the UK. We've got quite a strong level of resilient cash buyers."

Redrow, which recently stopped building in London, reported underlying pre-tax profit up 31 per cent to £410 million in the year to July 3, from revenue 10 per cent better at £2.14 billion. Pre-tax profit fell from £314 million to £246 million after exceptional fire safety costs of £164 million in the aftermath of the Grenfell tower blaze.

The company, in which Steve Morgan, 69, the founder, retains a 16 per cent stake, lifted its final dividend by 19 per cent to 22p, making a total for the year of 32p, up from 24.5p. In July it launched a £100 million share buyback.

It ended the year with an order book of £1.44 billion, just ahead of the £1.43 billion declared this time last year, and it was 75 per cent sold for next year.

Shares of Redrow fell 1½p, or 0.3 per cent, to 474½p. They are down by about 30 per cent over the past 12 months.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

Google loses appeal over fine

Google abused its dominant position will very likely be used as a foundation for huge follow-on damages claims — potentially running into the billions — from those who have suffered loss as a result of Google's conduct."

Harbord said the UK's competition appeal tribunal's opt-out group was "becoming increasingly tried and tested and funders and insurers are willing to back them — as demonstrated by the action filed against Google in respect of advertising malpractice".

Another competition specialist lawyer, John Cassels, a partner at Fieldfisher, pointed out that despite the commission's win in the Google case, its "recent success rate in major tech cases languishes at just 50 per cent".

Behind the story

The dismissal of Google's appeal is a victory for Margrethe Vestager, the European commissioner who has taken a global lead in trying to reduce the dominance of the big technology companies (Katie Prescott writes).

While the European General Court made a minor adjustment to Google's fine and overturned the decision on agreements that gave a financial incentive to

mobile phone companies to install Google's Android platform, it was on the basis of insufficient evidence and that Google had not had an opportunity to comment fully. It upheld the other infringements and — crucially — found Google had acted intentionally.

Vestager has a track record in taking on Google. In 2017 the company was fined €2.4 billion for pushing its own site in shopping comparison searches. Two years later, it was hit with a €1.49 billion

penalty for restricting competition through its advert-placing business.

Several investigations are continuing, too. In 2021 the commission opened a review into Google's role in digital advertising and whether it favours its own online display advertising technology services. Then, in March this year, it started examining whether an agreement between Google and Meta (formerly Facebook) for online display advertising services may have breached

European competition rules.

Dieter Paemen, a partner at Clifford Chance, said the commission would take heart from the ruling. The law firm represented FairSearch, a group that brought the initial complaint in the Android case in 2013. He said that while the reduced fine was "just a drop in the bucket" for Google, the "judgment will embolden the commission in its efforts to enforce the Digital Markets Act, and that can't make

Google happy. The commission now needs to turn its attention to seriously enforcing the remedies in the decision, but this is a positive outcome for consumers, who stand a better chance of real choices on their mobile devices."

In Britain, MPs are considering regulation of Big Tech, with the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumer Bill due before parliament. They will be watching the developments in Europe.

Simon Nixon

The dismissal of Scholar suggests the government has learnt nothing

“Britain is arguably facing the most challenging economic conditions in half a century. Inflation hit 9.9 per cent last month and, even after the energy price freeze, is forecast to remain above 10 per cent next year. The pound has fallen to its lowest level against the dollar since 1985 and has even fallen against the euro, despite the prospect of aggressive interest rate rises. Ten-year gilt yields are up 1 per cent in a month and public debt was already approaching 100 per cent of GDP before what could be a £150 billion energy bailout and £30 billion of tax cuts. The current account deficit is now a new record of 8.3 per cent of GDP.

One might think that against such a backdrop any government would not want to do anything that might damage Britain's standing in the markets. Yet, on his first day in the job, Kwasi Kwarteng, the new chancellor chose to sack Sir Tom Scholar, the Treasury permanent secretary who has helped to steer the country through two one-in-a-hundred-year emergencies, the global financial crisis and Covid-19 pandemic, and until last week was leading the response to the energy crisis.

The government has not said why he had to go. Scholar said in a statement that Kwarteng had told him it was time for new leadership. Yet Kwarteng has not said why this was needed. The nearest we have to an explanation was a column in this newspaper by Lord Agnew of Oulton, a former joint cabinet office and Treasury minister, who argued he had blocked policies and presided over a culture of groupthink. That chimed with criticisms by Liz Truss on the campaign trail of what she called “Treasury orthodoxy”.

Yet the idea that the Treasury is a block on the will of elected politicians is self-evidently untrue. It has always been the most political of all departments, smoothly accommodating itself to whoever is in power, never happier than when led by a chancellor with a clear agenda. It helped Nigel Lawson to deregulate, privatise and cut taxes. It helped John Major to join the European Exchange Rate Mechanism and helped Norman Lamont when the pound fell out of it. It helped Gordon Brown to make the Bank of England independent and to deliver a surge in

public spending and then helped George Osborne to implement a drastic austerity programme. The one constant is an awareness that eventually debts must be paid.

It is hard to avoid the suspicion that what really lies behind the Truss government's assault on the Treasury is embarrassment at the economic consequences of the past 12 years of Tory rule. Osborne's austerity programme was a failure on its own terms. After five years of cuts, the structural budget deficit that it was designed to eliminate was still over 2 per cent of GDP. His boast that he was a “fiscal conservative but a monetary activist” proved woefully misplaced. His deep cuts to public spending led directly to the vast backlogs in public services, notably health and the criminal justice system, that are weighing on the economy today. Meanwhile, the ultra-low interest rates triggered a bubble in asset prices that made the rich vastly richer without leading to any surge in investment.

Yet the disappointments of Osborne's chancellorship are nothing compared with the failures of the past six years. Truss talks repeatedly about her plans for supply side reform, apparently oblivious to the fact that since 2016 the Tories have presided over the most radical supply side revolution, albeit almost entirely negative, in recent history. Trade barriers have been erected with Britain's most important trading partners. Exporters to the European



Liz Truss railed against “Treasury orthodoxy” on the campaign trail



Ryan Bourne

Freezing rents offers no answer to inflation and only creates more trouble

“We've seen various overlapping stages of “inflation grief” in politics. The denial it was happening. Then claims it was “transitory.” Later we were told that central banks could do little about supply-led inflation anyway and more recently that taxpayer relief could mitigate it. Now, depressingly but predictably, some politicians are even reaching for price controls to counter it.

Nicola Sturgeon's price control of choice is to freeze rents until March 2023 in Scotland. This cannot counteract the pandemic money supply surge or war-induced supply shocks, so can't “solve” our macroeconomic problem. What it and her concurrent eviction moratorium will do is what rent controls always deliver: shortages of rentable properties, worse landlord-

‘Capping rent increases below market rates results in demand outstripping supply for rental accommodation’

tenant relations and gummed up labour markets. Hence why polls find 95 per cent of economists oppose rent ceilings.

Decades of academic research shows that capping rent increases below market rates results in demand outstripping supply for rental accommodation. Incumbent tenants cling more tightly to their cheaper property, meaning fewer dwellings on the market, longer searches and underhand payments or favouritism to allocate the scarcer accommodation. Less tenant churn means many households simply can't find properties reflecting their family or job needs, lowering economy-wide productivity. In response, certain landlords skimp on upkeep to maintain their margins, much to tenants' chagrin.

The main effect is a decline in the quantity of accommodation supplied. Building new rentable properties becomes less profitable and riskier. Rather than take a financial hit or risk being stuck with undesirable tenants, some existing landlords convert properties to short-term

Airbnb-type rentals or sell for owner occupation, to the detriment of poorer households, who can't afford deposits for property purchases.

Sturgeon's policy is notionally temporary, making the balance of the benefits to incumbent tenants against these negative consequences seem more favourable. Yet the Scottish government was consulting on rent controls already and history shows controls stick around in practice. Rent controls were temporarily introduced in Britain in the First World War; rents were fully deregulated again only in 1989. In the interim, the private rented sector collapsed from nine tenths of the housing stock to almost one tenth.

Recent experiences show that new rent controls can have destructive effects quickly, too. Last November St Paul in Minnesota in the United States voted to cap rent increases to 3 per cent per year from May. Permits for new housing units have fallen by 31 per cent already, compared with a 35 per cent increase in nearby, control-absent Minneapolis. The divergent trend in construction is greater still.

Before being struck down by the courts in April 2021, Berlin froze rents at 2019 levels for five years. The Munich-based Ifo Institute for Economic Research found the number of new rental properties available fell by almost half in one year, despite increasing across thirteen other large German cities without controls.

True, some prosperous cities utilise “second-generation” rent controls to give tenants more near-term security at lower cost. These limit rent rises within, say, three-year tenancies but allow freely set rents between them, so bring less economic dysfunction, albeit still reducing supply if perceived by developers as being the thin end of the wedge.

Yet economists agree that Sturgeon's rent freeze or similar crude controls reduce the availability of rentable properties and misallocate accommodation. That such misguided ideas are in vogue is an underappreciated cost of letting the inflation genie out of the bottle.

Ryan Bourne is R Evan Scharf chair for the Public Understanding of Economics at the Cato Institute and author of the recent book *Economics in One Virus*

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Business

SoftBank's latest vision is to make it third time lucky

Callum Jones
US Business Correspondent

SoftBank is weighing up whether to launch a third large investment fund for start-ups as the Japanese conglomerate seeks to draw a line under record losses.

Executives at the world's most prolific technology investor have held

discussions over how to proceed after its billionaire founder pledged to move forward with care.

Masayoshi Son issued a *mea culpa* last month for the group's recent poor performance, which came after it had spent years providing extraordinary levels of funding to start-ups.

"When we were turning out big

profits, I became somewhat delirious," he said, "and looking back at myself now, I am quite embarrassed and remorseful."

SoftBank is considering the launch of Vision Fund 3, according to *The Wall Street Journal*, which cited sources familiar with internal discussions within the company. It was also said to be

looking at putting additional funds into Vision Fund 2. A spokesman for SoftBank declined to comment.

Son, 65, set up SoftBank four decades ago when it focused on software distribution and publishing computer magazines. It pushed into the internet, forming a joint venture with Yahoo and making a lucrative investment in Alibaba, the Chinese ecommerce group. SoftBank launched the first \$100 billion Vision Fund five years ago, with backing from investors including Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund and technology companies such as Apple. It started a second vehicle with its own capital.

The initial Vision Fund faces challenges after placing steep bets on businesses including WeWork, the American shared office space provider, and Didi Global, the Chinese ride-hailing group. While Vision Fund 2 was designed to be more cautious than its predecessor, its value is about 19 per cent shy of the \$49 billion it invested in companies.

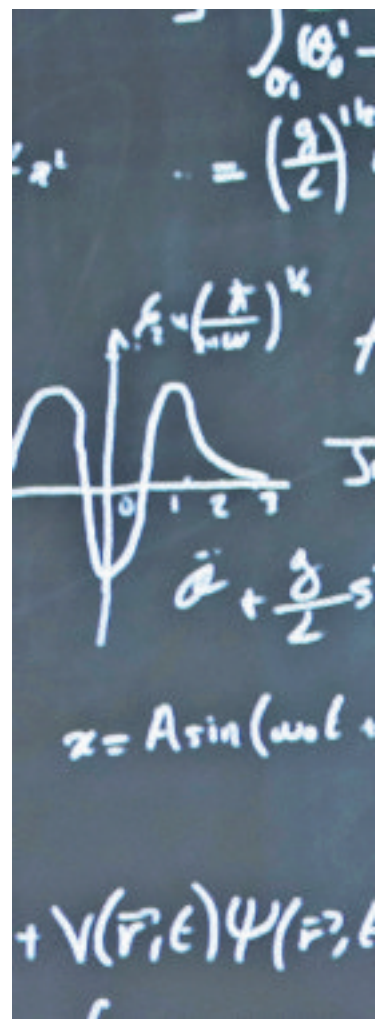
SoftBank, which has been hit by the sharp fall in the value of technology stocks, is in the midst of a tough year. It reported a £19 billion loss for the three months to the end of June after holdings including Coupang, a South Korean ecommerce company, and DoorDash, the American food delivery business, fell sharply.

"Now seems like the perfect time to invest when the stock market is down so much and I have the urge to do so," Son said last month. "But if I act on it, we could suffer a blow that would be irreversible and that is unacceptable."

The group has been reducing its stakes in companies including Alibaba. In a filing last month it said it would make a \$34.1 billion gain from cutting its position in the ecommerce business from 23.7 per cent to 14.6 per cent.

SoftBank is best known in Britain as the owner of Arm, the semiconductor business that was once listed in the FTSE 100 but was taken private by the conglomerate in 2016 for about £24 billion. While an agreed \$40 billion sale to Nvidia, an American rival, fell through this year, a flotation is expected to provide further cash for SoftBank.

SoftBank is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, where its shares declined by 4.4 per cent before reports of a third fund emerged yesterday.



Masayoshi Son's investments have had

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Business briefing

Stock markets across the world remain volatile following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Oil and gas prices have been spiralling, while British companies are scrambling to cope with the effects of soaring costs. With the situation changing by the hour, keeping up to date is



essential. Get the latest news and market reaction by 8am, and analysis at 12.30pm, direct by email from the Business Editor, Richard Fletcher, and the Business News Editor, Martyn Strydom.

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Mixed fortunes

SoftBank's biggest successes

ARM

The British semiconductors group, acquired by SoftBank in 2016, accounted for 14 per cent of its total net asset value in June

ALIBABA

A vast stake in the Chinese ecommerce group remains the gift that keeps on giving, allowing SoftBank the chance to free up cash by reducing its investment. The company is valued at \$227 billion

... and its biggest flops

WEWORK

The shared office space provider co-founded by Adam Neumann, into which SoftBank invested more than \$13.5 billion is now valued at less than \$3 billion on the stock market

KLARNA

The Swedish "buy now, pay later" credit provider suffered an 85 per cent drop in its valuation to \$6.7 billion on the private market this summer

GREENSILL

The lender received about \$1.5 billion from SoftBank before its collapse last year

Fears for the future of Naked Wines laid bare by shares' slide

Dominic Walsh

Naked Wines faces an uncertain future after fresh question marks over its finances and a sudden boardroom exit sent its shares tumbling by more than a third yesterday.

In a short statement after the market closed on Tuesday, the online wine retailer said it was "reviewing potential operational and financial plans for the next 18 months", with a focus on "increased profitability, cost restraint and improved payback".

The worry for shareholders was the admission that, alongside the review, it was "in active discussions to address our credit facility", while it also raised the issue of covenants.

"The group remains in compliance with all obligations around this facility through the first quarter and expects to have headroom to the second-quarter covenant tests," Naked said.

The company, whose stock previously had taken a pounding after a profit warning in June, also announced the sudden exit of a non-executive director who had been appointed less than three weeks ago. Pratham Ravi, 30, who left with immediate effect, is an analyst with Punch Card Capital, an investment firm based in Florida that holds a stake of about 10 per cent of Naked, making it one of the biggest shareholders.

The statement, which the company promised to expand upon in a trading update in the middle of next month, and the resignation of Ravi combined to spark fears for Naked's future. Wayne Brown, an analyst at Liberum, said the events suggested that "something has gone awry" and could imply that Naked would emerge as a smaller business as it reined in its ambitions.

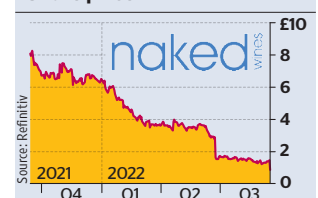
He suggested that the forthcoming trading update "could be rather negative" in light of "the weak balance sheet,

question marks around the covenants in the first quarter, liquidity and going concern issues and how the group will drive liquidity in the second quarter.

Andrew Wade, at Jefferies, said he expected a shift from revenue growth to a focus on profitability, with Naked paring back its heavy investment in acquiring new customers.

In July the company was hit the abrupt exit of Shawn Tabak, 43, as its chief financial officer, a month after June's profit warning. On the day of the warning, the shares slumped by 43.5 per cent amid concerns that the

Share price



significant amount spent on recruiting new customers, mainly through money-off vouchers, does not translate into sustainable profits.

Naked, which operates in Britain, the United States and Australia, was founded in 2008 by Rowan Gormley, who reversed it into Majestic Wine in 2015. He unwound this deal in 2019 via a sale of the Majestic retail business to Fortress Investment Group. Gormley, 60, retains a 2.7 per cent stake.

The group funds independent winemakers via a network of 964,000 customers known as "angels". Naked, which is now based in America, has 266 winemakers on its books producing more than 1,500 wines.

The shares lost 54p, or 37.7 per cent, to close at 90p yesterday.

Dunelm's profit forecast cushions the retail gloom

Robert Lea

Fears over the "extremely challenging" trading environment and looming recession that are confronting retailers of every sort were cushioned somewhat yesterday by Dunelm, which insisted it was on target to hit City forecasts this year.

The homewares retailer, which sells duvet covers and pillowcases designed by Holly Willoughby, the television presenter, said its sales had remained "robust" over the past ten weeks.

Unveiling annual results for the 53 weeks to July 2, it reported a 34 per cent increase in pre-tax profit to £212 million on sales 18 per cent better at £1.58 billion. It also remained "on track" to hit the lower profit levels expected in the present financial year, it said. On a spread of £130 million to £193 million, analysts' consensus expectation is that it will make £178 million.

"We feel confident and well-prepared to weather the current economic pressures," Nick Wilkinson, chief executive, said. "We emerged from an unprecedented global pandemic as a bigger, better business and we believe we have the tools in place to do that again."

"That said, the operating and econ-

omic environment is extremely challenging. In this environment, we have to make every pound count, both for ourselves through our tight operational grip and cost discipline, and for our customers, through our offer of outstanding value at all price points."

Wilkinson, 56, added that Dunelm would continue to compete on price. "Now is not the time for us to shy away from that but for us to fully embrace it," he said.

Helped further by the announcement of a 14 per cent dividend rise to 40p, shares in Dunelm closed up 25p, or 5.5 per cent, at 748p. A year ago the shares stood at nearly £14.

Dunelm was founded as a market stall in Leicester in 1979 by Bill and Jean Adderley, a husband and wife. It now has 177 stores around the country, predominantly out of town.

Dunelm recently named Alison Brittain, 57, the departing Whitbread boss as its incoming chairwoman. She joined the chain's board this month as an independent non-executive director and chairwoman-designate before she takes over from Andy Harrison, 65, when his nine-year term ends in September next year.

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Zara owner Inditex makes material gain

James Hurley

Strong demand from shoppers meant the owner of the Zara fashion chain was able to report a 41 per cent rise in profits yesterday, but it warned that it would have to increase prices as it expressed concerns about its supply chain.

Inditex said it would ask its suppliers to increase production of its clothing as it tries to stockpile items ahead of Christmas trading "in the face of possible supply chain tensions".

Zara is known for using its own factories in Spain and Turkey to respond rapidly to fashion trends, but the move relates to garments produced in Asia, where Inditex sources items such as T-shirts and underwear. Inditex did not set out the nature of the supply chain issues it feared.

The giant Spanish retail group, which also owns the Massimo Dutti, Pull &

Bear and Bershka brands, said it would increase prices in the autumn to help to offset rising input costs, despite concerns that demand could be hit by the cost of living crisis. It also raised prices in the spring and summer.

Inditex was founded by Amancio

€14.8bn

Inditex's revenue for six months to July
Source: Inditex

Ortega, who is now one of Europe's richest men, in 1975 when he opened his first Zara store with Rosalía Mera, his wife at the time.

In the first set of results since Marta Ortega, 38, the founder's daughter, took over as non-executive chairwoman, it reported revenue of €14.8 billion in the

six months to the end of July, compared with €11.9 billion a year earlier. Net profit rose to €1.79 billion, from €1.27 billion last year. The results were better than analysts had expected and Inditex shares closed up 71 cents, or 3.2 per cent, at €22.80.

Oscar Garcia Maceiras, 46, chief executive, said sales had continued to grow in recent weeks and he had confidence in the company's long-term potential, despite investors' concerns about waning demand for fashion as inflation takes hold. Inditex previously decided to increase its prices to cope with inflation at a time when shoppers were buying more clothes for holidays, events and the return to the office.

Analysts at Credit Suisse said Inditex had benefited from favourable trends, weather and pricing and there was no guarantee that shoppers would not balk at further price rises.

Business

Smith gives up trying to pick out emerging market winners

Patrick Hosking Financial Editor

Terry Smith has abandoned his eight-year attempt to pick stock market winners in emerging markets.

Smith's firm has given notice to resign as manager of the £319 million Fundsmith Emerging Equities Trust, which is to be liquidated and the cash returned to investors.

The withdrawal is a rare setback for Smith, one of Britain's most successful stockpickers with an army of fans who have entrusted more than £26 billion of their savings to his care.

Smith, 69, said he no longer believed that his Fundsmith asset management group had a particular edge to produce superior risk-adjusted returns from emerging markets. The performance of the trust, while positive, had "fallen below our expectations... Unlike other fund managers who might seek to hold on to the fund for the sake of the fee income, we feel it would be in the best interests of shareholders to receive their investment back in cash."

Wealth managers expressed surprise at the move. Jason Hollands, at Evelyn Partners, said: "It is hard to think of a previous example, certainly in recent history, of a fund manager deciding to fire themselves from managing a portfolio earning them fees."

Fundsmith receives fees of 1 per cent of assets under management from the Fundsmith Emerging Equities Trust each year, at present £3.2 million.

The trust was launched by Smith in June 2014. After a disappointing start, he insisted it would come good, but the trust has continued to produce low-key returns, which have averaged 2.5 per cent a year since its inception, trailing its benchmark, which averaged 6.5 per cent. Over the past five years, it has lagged other emerging market trusts, such as the giant £2.2 billion Templeton

Emerging Markets and the £1.5 billion JP Morgan Emerging Markets.

Before yesterday's announcement the fund's shares were at a 14.9 per cent discount to net assets, reflecting market disappointment with its performance, though they rose by 9.9 per cent, or 120p, to £13.35 after news emerged of its winding up.

Smith is thought to have become frustrated with factors outside his control, including swings in emerging market currencies and the explosion of index-tracking funds in emerging market shares, which distort prices.

He is understood to be committed to his other investment trust, the £2.2 billion Smithson, which is focused on smaller listed companies in developed markets and which also has struggled recently.

Emerging market equities have been hobbled by the strong dollar, global interest rate expectations and the economic slowdown in China. The Fundsmith Emerging Equities Trust is most exposed to India, comprising 44.9 per cent of its portfolio, while mainland China and Hong Kong account for 15.1 per cent. India has outperformed most emerging markets over the past year.

The winding-up decision will go to a shareholder vote at a general meeting and if approved the trust will go into voluntary liquidation in November. Shareholders are expected to get about 85 per cent of their cash within a month of that date, with the rump paid out a few months later as more illiquid holdings are sold.

Dzmitry Lipski, at Interactive Investor, was surprised there was no rollover option, but added: "Even so, we do agree that it can be far better to wind an investment trust up and return money to shareholders than to limp on for years while taking fees from investors."



Ben Elliot with the actress Goldie Hawn at a fundraising dinner. His group offers "unparalleled access to global events"

restructuring of the group. BDO resigned as auditor of Quintessentially Travel, a related company, last month, separate filings show, and was set to resign as auditor of the group, the *Financial Times* reported. It would mean Quintessentially is searching for its third auditor in three years. BDO declined to comment.

Last year, Quintessentially disclosed £7 million of previous accounting errors and an admission that £1.4 million of dividends were wrongly paid when it did not have adequate reserves to do so.

The business was founded in 2000 by Elliot, the nephew of the Queen Consort. His ties to Conservatives have led to controversy. Elliot recently stepped down as co-chairman of the Conservative Party.

The company bills itself as a "luxury lifestyle management" service that offers private concierge services and "unparalleled access to global events".

It appointed Deloitte to sound out potential bidders for the company, *The Sunday Times* reported in January, with bosses looking for as much as £140 million.

The accounts show revenue fell to £44.7 million from £50.4 million, which it said reflected a change in the "mix of the business". It made a loss of £3.1 million, compared with a loss of £4.4 million a year earlier.

The 2021 accounts are almost eight months late. Quintessentially was approached for comment.

Doubts hang over Tory's concierge business

Auditors for the luxury concierge service co-founded by Ben Elliot, a former co-chairman of the Conservative Party, have issued renewed warnings

about the future of the company (Alex Ralph writes).

In recently filed accounts for Quintessentially (UK) Limited, BDO noted a "material uncertainty" that may cast significant doubt over the group's ability to continue as a "going concern".

Its auditors noted there was a "risk that the pace and level at which [the] events and travel business returns could be materially less than forecast" because of the

uncertainty surrounding the pandemic. It would require Quintessentially to obtain external funding, "which may not be forthcoming".

However, the directors of Quintessentially, including Elliot, said they believed they could gain access to any necessary funds.

The accounts, for the year to April 30, 2020, were filed at Companies House after lengthy delays, concerns about the company's governance and a

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Rio Tinto joins China in iron ore mine

Emily Gosden Energy Editor

Rio Tinto and its biggest customer are to invest \$2 billion in developing a new iron ore mine in Western Australia.

The FTSE 100 miner said it would take a 54 per cent stake in a new joint venture to develop the Western Range project in the Pilbara region. It will invest \$1.3 billion under the deal, with China Baowu Steel Group stumping up the other \$700 million.

The new mine is expected to produce 25 million tonnes of iron ore a year, with construction due to start next year and first production expected in 2025.

Rio, which shipped 322 million tonnes of iron ore from the Pilbara last year, said the investment would "help to sustain production of the Pilbara blend from Rio Tinto's existing Paraburdoo mining hub".

Rio and China Baowu already produce via a joint venture at the Eastern Range mine, part of the Paraburdoo hub, and the new development will feed into Paraburdoo via an 11-mile conveyor system.

The London-listed Rio Tinto is one of the world's biggest miners. It is seeking to diversify and increase its production of commodities such as copper and lithium, but it still derives about three quarters of its earnings from producing iron ore in the Pilbara, where it has a network of seventeen mines, four port terminals and a vast rail network.

The new production from the Western Range project is designed to replace natural decline from



Rio Tinto shipped more than 322 million tonnes of iron ore from its mines in the huge Pilbara region of Western Australia last year

existing mines. Australia is the world's biggest exporter of iron ore and China is the biggest buyer of the commodity, which is used for steelmaking. Tensions between the two countries have risen as Beijing pushes to centralise iron ore purchases, with the creation of a new China Mineral Resources Group.

However, Jakob Stausholm, 54, Rio's chief executive, met senior managers of the new body this month to discuss a strategic part-

nership and Rio has a long history of working with China Baowu. Rio's first shipment to China in 1973 was to the Shanghai No 1 steel mill, now part of China Baowu. In 2002, the companies created a joint venture to develop Eastern Range.

Simon Trott, 47, Rio's iron ore chief, said: "This is a very significant milestone for both Rio Tinto and Baowu. We have enjoyed a strong working relationship with Baowu for more than four decades,

shipping more than 200 million tonnes of iron ore under our original joint venture, and we are looking forward to extending our partnership at Western Range."

Rio's operations in the Pilbara have been under scrutiny since it blew up the sacred and ancient Juukan Gorge rock shelters to expand an iron ore mine in 2020, sparking a backlash that led to the ousting of Jean-Sébastien Jacques, 50, the former chief executive.

Rio said it had "worked closely

with the traditional owners on whose country Western Range is situated, the Yinhawangka people, to co-design a social and cultural heritage management plan for the project, designed to protect significant cultural and heritage values in the area".

The investment by China Baowu bucks a trend of declining investment by Chinese groups in Australia, which has fallen from more than \$11.5 billion in 2016 to less than \$600 million in 2021.

Analysts at Macquarie said: "Iron ore replacement projects are required to de-bottleneck Rio's mining capacity and re-establish its product quality. In addition to Gudai-Darri, which delivered its first ore in June, the company has a pipeline of replacement projects to support its iron ore production."

"We note Western Range project is most advanced, with multiple key milestones achieved with the local community and indigenous people. The Western Range JV is another key milestone for the project."

Rio's shares closed down 2.3 per cent, or 11p, at £47.98 last night.

Tullow 'fully committed' to merger

Greig Cameron

Tullow Oil has reaffirmed its commitment to an all-share takeover of the rival Capricorn Energy.

Some Capricorn investors have raised concerns that the proposed £1.4 billion deal undervalues the business. Last week the board said it still supported the transaction but also had engaged in talks with other parties.

Rahul Dhir, Tullow's chief executive, who would run the enlarged group, said yesterday that Tullow was "fully committed" to the proposal because it had the potential "for material value-creation by implementing a combined busi-

ness plan that accelerates investment in key projects and delivers very significant synergies".

The merger plan was announced in June, but has met a mixed response from investors and industry analysts. Some are concerned that Capricorn would not receive enough of a premium as its cash would be used to help to reduce Tullow's net debt, which stood at \$2.3 billion at the end of June, while Capricorn is sitting on \$631 million of cash.

There are also worries over whether the combined group's assets are compatible. Capricorn, based in Edinburgh, has its core production assets onshore in

Egypt, as well as exploration interests in the North Sea, Mauritania, Israel and Mexico. Tullow, based in London, has interests in Ghana, Gabon and Ivory Coast and produced 59,200 barrels of oil per day last year.

The terms of the deal would give Capricorn shareholders 47 per cent of the enlarged business. The companies intend to publish a circular for shareholders in the final quarter of the year. The deal will need the support of 75 per cent of Capricorn backers to proceed.

Shares in Tullow rose by 1p, or 2.2 per cent, to 50p, while Capricorn's stock edged down by 4p, or 1.9 per cent, to 237p.

Uniper to seek state takeover

Emily Gosden

The German government could take a controlling stake in Uniper as the ailing energy group is brought to the edge of collapse by the Russian gas crisis. Shares in the company fell by a fifth to close at an all-time low of less than €4 last night. They have lost 90 per cent of their value this year.

Uniper is Germany's biggest importer of gas from Russia and when Moscow curtailed supplies to Europe the company was forced to pay sky-high spot market prices to source replacement supplies.

A rescue package was agreed with the German government in July, under which the state was expected to take a stake of about a 30 per cent in the group, which is majority-owned by Fortum. The value of the bailout has soared to €19 billion and Uniper said it was now discussing "alternative solutions, inter alia, a straight equity increase that would result in a significant majority participation by the German government in Uniper".

Analysts at Bernstein Research said that "an additional equity infusion of €4.5 billion could be required", which would take the government's stake to 88 per cent and would dilute Fortum's holding from 78 per cent to 8 per cent.

Oil growth will 'grind to a halt'

Emily Gosden

A faltering China and a slowdown in advanced economies will lead to growth in global oil demand grinding to a halt in the fourth quarter, the International Energy Agency has forecast.

The slowdown in economic activity will outweigh the impact of a surge in demand for oil for use in power generation as European nations switch to burning the fuel to replace Russian gas this winter, according to the agency's monthly oil market report.

Oil prices dipped below \$90 a barrel this month, the lowest level since January and more than \$30

below highs recorded in June, as "a deteriorating economic environment and recurring Covid lockdowns in China continue to weigh on market sentiment", the agency said. In New York last night Brent crude, the international benchmark price, was 1 per cent higher at \$94.10 a barrel.

"Global oil demand remains under pressure from the faltering Chinese economy and a slowdown in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development economies. Growth continues to lose momentum," it said. The agency expects growth to slow from 3.5 million barrels per day in the first half of 2022 to 1.1 million in the

third quarter before "grinding to a halt in the fourth quarter of 2022". The slowdown will come despite evidence of "large-scale switching from gas to oil".

Russian oil supplies have been more resilient than expected, despite western sanctions, and the agency said Moscow's exports in August were only 390,000 barrels below levels before Russia began its war in Ukraine. A drop-off in exports to Europe and America was mitigated by oil being rerouted to China, India and others. The European Union embargo that comes into effect in December will mean another 1.4 million barrels per day will need to "find new homes".

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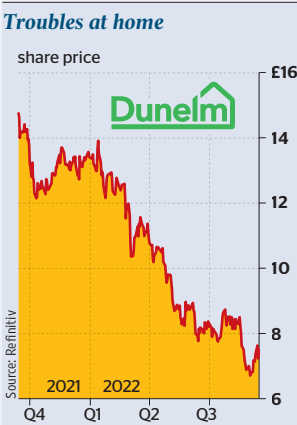
Retailer gives itself room for recovery

DUNELM	
Market cap	£1.48bn
Pre-tax profit	£209m

Dunelm has already been priced for disappointment by a market expecting thinner profit margins, squeezed by a sharp fall in sales on one side and inflated costs on the other. That earnings will fall this year, compared with previous booming pandemic-era demand, is a given: the bigger question is whether analysts' forecasts for profits to be some way higher than 2019 levels are too optimistic.

The extent of the markdown in the homewares retailer's shares suggests that the risk of the FTSE 250 constituent missing the consensus forecast has been well accounted for. Its shares trade at less than 11 times forecast earnings for this financial year, at the bottom of the long-running average. Fair enough, you might say — but cut the earnings figure forecast by analysts this year by 20 per cent, worse than the fall sustained in the pit of the pandemic, and that profits multiple is still below Dunelm's long-running average.

Revenue growth of last year's magnitude is not expected to be maintained, with total sales rising by 18 per cent over the 53 weeks to the start of July, benefiting from a recovery in store sales. A dearth of end-of-season sales pushed the gross margin above historical



ADVICE Hold
WHY The risk of the retailer missing profit expectations appears to be reflected in the share price

norms to 51.2 per cent. This year gets harder. Dunelm reckons it can meet market expectations in pushing revenue marginally ahead of what was a record year. According to Nick Wilkinson, the chief executive, thus far it has seen no signs of customers trading down or delaying purchases of winter items, such as thicker

Sales and pre-tax profits	
Revenue	
2019	£1,100m
2020	£1,058m
2021	£1,336m
2022	£1,553m
2023*	£1,568m
Pre-tax profit	
2019	£126m
2020	£109m
2021	£158m
2022	£209m
2023*	£178m

*estimated

duvets, because of the summer's long hot spell. But upgrading your home fits neatly into the discretionary spending category and cost of living pressures could cause sales to slip.

Another question is whether the retailer will need to discount more to entice cash-strapped customers. Inventory levels almost 30 per cent higher than they were a year ago risk more stock being marked down if demand doesn't materialise as expected.

The company expects the margin to fall to about 50 per cent this financial year as end-of-season sales return. Spending, which increased last year in areas such as building stock levels and opening two new

warehouses, should be lower this year, which will help. What Dunelm can boast is an efficient use of its capital and low rent costs that have come with occupying out-of-town retail parks. An increased proportion of online sales would reduce that rent-to-revenue ratio even further. Wilkinson is hoping that online sales could push back up to 40 per cent this year.

The result? A business that is highly cash-generative. Last year cash from its operations was equivalent to 116 per cent of operating profits. Free cashflow stood at £153 million, even after funding the expansion of its online fulfilment capacity and operating cost inflation. That attribute has resulted in generous cash returns for shareholders.

Dunelm is in the habit of handing back cash once net debt falls below 0.2 times adjusted earnings before tax and other charges. Net debt stood at a multiple of 0.1 at the start of July, only just below that ratio and less promising than the £129 million net cash pile at the start of July last year. But even if Dunelm can meet an analyst forecast of an ordinary dividend of 44p this year, that would still leave the shares offering a potential yield of 5.9 per cent at the current price.

Life is hard for retailers, but being fitter than rivals should give Dunelm a clearer run at recovering profit growth once the worst of the inflationary pressures pass.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Industrial output drops

Eurozone industrial production was weaker than expected in July, mainly because of a sharp drop in the output of capital goods that are used to make finished products and that reflect business investment. Eurostat, the European Union's statistics office, said industrial production in the 19 countries sharing the euro fell by 2.3 per cent month-on-month in July for a 2.4 per cent year-on-year decline. The output of capital goods, which include machinery, fell by 4.2 per cent month-on-month for a 5.4 per cent year-on-year drop.

Plan to reform market

The US Securities and Exchange Commission has proposed what would be the most significant changes to the world's largest bond market in decades. The draft rules would boost the use of central clearing in the \$24 trillion treasury market, which is used to benchmark assets globally, in an attempt to boost its resilience. The proposals come after liquidity crunches in recent years that have raised concerns about the market's ability to function during times of stress.

Reit snaps up store

Supermarket Income real estate investment trust has bought a Tesco supermarket in Llanelli, south Wales, for £66.8 million. The trust said that the acquisition price reflected a net initial yield of 5.3 per cent. It is acquiring the store from M&G, the fund manager, with an unexpired lease term of 12 years. The deal comprises a supermarket, a 16-pump petrol filling station and a car park. Shares in the real estate trust closed down 3p, or 2.4 per cent, at 120p.

Tesla's battery switch

Tesla was said last night to set to pause plans to make battery cells at its German production site. Executives are looking at ways it can qualify for American electric vehicle and battery manufacturing tax credits, according to *The Wall Street Journal*. Under new legislation, production tax credits can be used to offset part of the costs incurred when making electric vehicle battery packs in the United States. Tesla shares rose 3.6 per cent, or \$10.48, to \$302.61.

ADVANCED MEDICAL SOLUTIONS	
Half-year revenues	£58.3m
Net cash	£75.3m

Having a more defensive revenue stream and a lower research and development burden than the drugs sector has earned medical technology companies prestige among investors. Yet even the so-called medtech industry has been discounted to reflect scepticism about how margins will hold up in the face of rising inflation.

For Advanced Medical Solutions, that has translated into a share price that has derated to 25 times its

forecast earnings, at the lower end of the historical range. That leaves room for the shares to move higher over the medium term if it can deploy its cash into expanding its geographic reach and can limit pressure on its margins.

A recovery in elective surgeries and restocking by distributors that ran down supplies in the pandemic helped to improve first-half revenues for the business, which makes and supplies wound dressings used in operating theatres. So, too, did price rises, which its bosses reckon will be enough to offset cost inflation this year.

Analysts at Numis expect an adjusted annual pre-tax profit of

£29.8 million this year, above the £109 million of last year and higher than the 2019 level. But there is more uncertainty than usual over whether those forecasts will be hit. Aside from cost inflation, R&D expenditure is expected to rise to between 9 per cent and 10 per cent of revenue this year and next, higher than a historic mid-single-digit norm. There is also the question of whether medical facilities replenishing their supplies will cause sales volumes to slow.

What the business does have in its corner is an ample cash supply. However, investors shouldn't eye a net cash pile of just more than £75 million in the hope special returns will be handed back to them.

There is more chance of funds being spent on bolt-on or larger acquisitions in markets where Advanced Medical Solutions has distribution lines and where adding a business with manufacturing facilities could help sales and savings. Past next year, mergers, new product launches and a fuller recovery in surgeries may be catalysts for the shares being rated more highly.

ADVICE Buy
WHY Lower price already accounts for risks associated with inflation and greater R&D

PRICES

Major indices

New York	
Dow Jones	31135.09 (+30.12)
Nasdaq Composite	11719.68 (+86.10)
S&P 500	3946.01 (+13.32)
Tokyo	
Nikkei 225	27818.62 (-796.01)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	18847.10 (-479.76)
Amsterdam	
AEX Index	680.86 (-3.37)
Sydney	
AO	7071.80 (-181.90)
Frankfurt	
DAX	13028.00 (-160.95)
Singapore	
Straits	3258.02 (-32.06)
Brussels	
BEL20	3606.40 (-33.18)
Paris	
CAC-40	6222.41 (-23.28)
Zurich	
SMI Index	10754.40 (-137.14)
DJ Euro Stoxx 50	3567.56 (-18.62)
London	
FTSE 100	7277.30 (-108.56)
FTSE 250	18849.20 (-318.01)
FTSE 350	4031.45 (-61.32)
FTSE Eurotop 100	3225.14 (-23.29)
FTSE All-Shares	3996.83 (-59.29)
FTSE Non Financials	4854.54 (-75.32)
techMARK 100	6104.50 (-112.13)
Bargains	n/a
US\$	1.1546 (+0.0042)
Euro	1.1564 (+0.0036)
£:SDR	0.98 (+0.00)
Exchange Index	77.17 (-0.51)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
CPI	123.15 Aug (2015 = 100)
RPI	345.20 Aug (Jan 1987 = 100)
RPIX	290.10 Jun (Jan 1987 = 100)
Morningstar Long Commodity	677.16 (+5.72)
Morningstar Long/Short Commod	4703.45 (+27.75)

London Financial Futures

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol	Open Int
Long Gilt	Sep 22	105.89	105.89	105.89	106.62	324	8984
	Dec 22	105.45	105.66	104.47	105.48	216878	635890
3-Mth Sterling	Sep 22	98.885	98.890	98.860	98.866	3885	301735
	Dec 22	98.820	98.825	98.790	98.806	7310	347378
	Mar 23	98.785	98.795	98.755	98.771	8310	229855
	Jun 23						
3-Mth Euribor	Sep 22	98.930	98.940	98.910	98.935	123250	518254
	Dec 22	97.840	97.840	97.765	97.790	201193	866942
	Mar 23	97.470	97.470	97.340	97.390	150241	755014
	Jun 23	97.370	97.375	97.245	97.295	136625	476813
	Sep 23	97.415	97.420	97.280	97.330	122223	386219
3-Mth Euroswiss	Sep 22	100.68	100.68	100.67	100.68	710	31355
	Dec 22	100.61	100.62	100.59	100.62	488	22748
	Mar 23						
	Jun 23						
FTSE100	Sep 22	7346.0	7350.5	7257.5	7281.0	213390	191337
	Dec 22	7353.0	7363.0	7269.5	7294.0	160618	509579
FTSEurofirst 80	Sep 22				4912.0		
	Dec 22				4918.0		

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Commodities

ICIS pricing (London 7,30pm)	
Brent (9,00pm)	
Nov	95.23-95.22
Dec	94.16-94.15
Jan	92.95-92.96
Volume: 1797730	
Crude Oils (\$/barrel FOB)	
Brent Physical	92.50 +0.83
BFOE(Dec)	94.18 +0.91
BFOE(Nov)	93.27 +0.89
WTI(Nov)	88.05 +1.16
WTI(Dec)	87.36 +1.11
Products (\$/MT)	
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)	
Premium Unid	857.00 859.00 +22.00
Gasoil EEC	920.50 922.50 +66.00
3.5 Fuel Oil	403.00 405.00 +14.00
Naphtha	663.00 665.00 +26.00
ICE Futures	
Gas Oil	
Oct	1000.50-1000.00
Nov	975.50-974.50
Dec	949.25-948.25
Jan	925.25-921.75
Feb	938.25-936.50
Volume:	786208
RobustaCoffee	
Sep	2288-2011
Nov	2232-2230
Jan	2226-2217
Mar	2199-2164
Volume: 9792	
White Sugar (FOB)	
Reuters	
May	494.70-486.40
Aug	487.60-484.40
Oct	480.40-473.00
Dec	459.80-453.10
Mar	450.70-445.00
Volume: 65882	



Aston Martin faces royalty legal claim

A £150 million lawsuit has been slapped on Aston Martin Lagonda over the development of its £2.5 million Valkyrie hypercar (Robert Lea writes). London's only listed sports car group revealed the legal action in a prospectus for a deeply discounted, highly dilutive rights issue, part of a £653 million fundraising in which more than a sixth of the company will end up in the hands of Saudi Arabia. The action has been taken by Nebula

Project, a Swiss car dealer. The *Financial Times* reported that Andreas Baenziger and Florian Kamelgar, Nebula Project's owners, were making the claim over arrangements in which Nebula alleges it was, in part, underwriting the Valkyrie project. Aston Martin has recognised the existence of the claim, in which Nebula is seeking up to £150 million of unpaid royalties, but has dismissed it as "retaliatory and without merit". Aston Martin has been in a previous legal wrangle with Nebula related to arrangements set up under the leadership of Andy Palmer, before Aston Martin came

under the control of a consortium led by Lawrence Stroll, 63, above, the motor racing tycoon who is now the company's executive chairman. Valkyrie is crucial for Aston Martin because of the huge profit margins it will make on the model. The company issued a profit warning at the beginning of this year, when it said production of the Valkyrie had been delayed. In recent filings, Aston said it was £1.2 billion in debt, much of that at high interest rates. In the first half of the year it lost £285 million, on top of the £214 million of losses made in 2021. Aston Martin shares fell 3½p, or 2.3 per cent, to 153½p.

The day's biggest movers

Company	Change
Network International Holdings Shareholder raises stake	5.3%
Dunelm Higher annual profits	3.5%
Darktrace Recovers losses	3%
Tullow Oil Rise in half-year profits	2.2%
Harbour Energy Stronger oil prices	1.3%
Antofagasta Weaker metals prices	-3.8%
abrdn Deutsche Bank cuts to "underperform"	-4.6%
JTC Profit-taking	-6.8%
C&C Disappointing trading update	-8.1%
Ocado Credit Suisse downgrades stock	-8.3%

Ocado mauled by bears in another broker downgrade

Jessica Newman Market report

There was a bears' picnic at Ocado yesterday after another bank urged clients to sell their shares in the online grocer. Credit Suisse's downgrade from a "neutral" recommendation to "underperform" — a "sell" in old money — came after the FTSE 100 group had lowered its full-year outlook, saying that customers were starting to trade down and buy fewer items, which would result in the first ever decline in its annual sales. Not that the guidance downgrade was the only thing that had Victoria Petrova and her team of analysts at the Swiss bank concerned. They pointed out that Ocado may have "exhausted" potential large market opportunities as it already had

Wall Street report

New York's investors licked their wounds after Tuesday's turmoil and indices staged modest recoveries, with the Dow Jones industrial average closing up 0.1 per cent, or 30.12 points, at 31,135.09, narrowly trailing the S&P 500 and Nasdaq.

exclusive agreements in most big developed markets, adding that the "lack of consistency in retail performance could make it more difficult to attract new international solution clients". The stock, down more than 60 per cent this year, tumbled to its lowest level in more than six years, closing off another 56p, or 8.2 per cent, at 623½p last night. The FTSE 100 sunk deeper into the red, too, retreating another 108.56 points, or 1.5 per cent, to 7,277.30 after a surprise fall in consumer prices did little to calm investors' nerves about aggressive interest rate rises. The FTSE 250 fell 318.01 points, or 1.7 per cent, to 18,849.20. Mining stocks dropped as metals prices weakened. Antofagasta, the Chilean copper miner, lost 45½p, or 3.8 per cent, to £11.64½. Anglo American fell 69p, or 2.4 per cent, to £28.51½; and Ferrexpo shed 7p, or 4.4 per cent, to 150½p. Melrose came under further

CONSUMER GOODS

Warning is like a lead balloon

A note of caution was the last thing that investors in Focusrite wanted to hear, with the studio equipment maker warning that its pre-tax profits would be below its own previous forecasts.

The company, set up in 1985 by Phil Dudderidge, 73, Led Zeppelin's first sound man, said rising costs, notably caused by higher freight charges and the short supply of semiconductors and other components, had put pressure on its margins. However, demand



Phil Dudderidge, a sound engineer, began Focusrite in 1985

for the Aim-listed group's products remained strong, it said, with full-year revenues expected to be in line with the board's expectations of about £180 million. Focusrite was a "lockdown winner" as

people stuck at home sought to pass the time by turning their hand to music and other audio-based pursuits, such as podcasting. "Over this past financial year, we have successfully built back our inventory position to provide greater resilience against supply chain volatility and ensure we are able to adequately meet demand as we head into the key holiday season," Tim Carroll, Focusrite's chief executive, said. The shares fell 70p, or 8.8 per cent, to a two-year low of 730p.

pressure as investors grew concerned that weakening economic growth would lead to a slowdown in industrial production. The shares, which have been under the cosh since the engineering conglomerate announced plans to spin off the GKN automotive business, fell another 4½p, or 4 per cent, to a four-month low of 116¼p. Rolls-Royce, the aerospace group, also slipped 4 per cent, in its case 3½p to 75¼p. Abrdn was another to suffer a broker downgrade, this time from Deutsche Bank. The switch from "hold" to "sell" came amid worries that the asset manager's earnings are "unlikely to turn around over the next six to twelve months". The shares slipped 7p, or 4.6 per cent, to 142¼p. Network International Holdings topped the mid-cap index as it rose 14½p, or 5.3 per cent, to 292¼p after one of its largest shareholders increased its stake in the company. Dunelm managed to hold on to its gains, closing up 25p, or 3.5 per cent,

at 748p after bumper annual results, while Oxford Nanopore picked up another 11p, or 3.9 per cent, to 294½p after Duncan Tatton-Brown, the gene sequencing group's non-executive chairman, snapped up shares worth about £530,000. The purchase was made the same day the company said half-year revenues had more than doubled. Resilient demand for Marlowe's services helped to drive sales 66 per cent higher in the six months to the end of June. Marlowe, which provides workplace health and safety, occupational health, water and hygiene services to clients ranging from JD Wetherspoon to Royal Mail, said it expected revenue growth for the rest of the year. The shares closed up 65p, or 9.7 per cent, to 746p. Bioventix added 200p, or 6.4 per cent, to £33.50 after the antibody maker said a strong second half and favourable exchange rates meant its full-year performance was likely to be "significantly ahead" of forecasts.

London Grain Futures					
LIFFE Wheat (close £/t)					
Nov	277.15	Jan	una	Mar	una
May	282.65	Jul	una	Volume:	1451
London Metal Exchange					
(Official)					
Cash	3mth			Dec 22	
Copper Gde A (\$/tonne)					
7860.0-7865.0	7785.0-7790.0			7715.0-7725.0	
Lead (\$/tonne)					
1929.0-1930.0	1935.0-1937.0			1918.0-1923.0	
Zinc Spec Hi Gde (\$/tonne)					
3213.0-3215.0	3188.0-3190.0			2945.0-2950.0	
Alum Hi Gde (\$/tonne)					
2227.0-2227.5	2243.0-2244.0			2332.0-2337.0	
Nickel (\$/tonne)					
23750.0-23755.0	23755.0-23760.0			24065.0-24115.0	
Tin (\$/tonne)					
21340.0-21350.0	21000.0-21050.0			19960.0-20010.0	

Gold/Precious metals (US dollars per ounce)				
Because of a technical issue, the gold fix prices are from Tuesday.				
Bullion: Open \$1702.04				
Close \$1701.59-1701.76 High \$1706.89				
Low \$1697.48				
AM \$1727.05 PM \$1704.85				
Krugerrand \$1684.00-2775.00 (£1455.51-2398.49)				
Platinum \$916.50 (£792.15)				
Silver \$19.60 (£16.94)				
Palladium \$2174.00 (£1879.03)				
European money deposits %				
Currency	1mth	3mth	6mth	12mth
Dollar	0.13	0.20	0.29	0.55
Sterling	2.20	2.72	3.46	0.81
Euro	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.50

Money rates %					
Base Rates	Clearing Banks 1.75		ECB Refi 1.25	US Fed Fd 2.25-2.50	
Halifax Mortgage Rate 3.99					
Treasury Bills (Dis) Buy: 1 mth 1.840; 3 mth 2.689. Sell: 1 mth 1.750; 3 mth 2.350					
	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Interbank Rates	2.1964	0.0000	2.7249	3.4591	0.0000
Eurodollar Deps	2.98-3.18	3.21-3.41	3.43-3.63	4.08-4.28	4.56-4.63
Sterling spot and forward rates					
Mkt Rates for	Range	Close	1 month	3 month	
Copenhagen	8.5629-8.6180	8.6044-8.6056	131ds	404ds	
Euro	1.1591-1.1516	1.1572-1.1571	13pr	41pr	
Montreal	1.5132-1.5250	1.5223-1.5226	13pr	29pr	
New York	1.1480-1.1589	1.1570-1.1570	8pr	22pr	
Oslo	11.604-11.694	11.664-11.667	6pr	10ds	
Stockholm	12.264-12.375	12.361-12.364	203ds	592ds	
Tokyo	164.79-166.41	165.33-165.34	36ds	124ds	
Zurich	1.1042-1.1128	1.1117-1.1119	22ds	70ds	
			Premium = pr	Discount = ds	

Dollar rates	
Australia	1.4803-1.4804
Canada	1.3159-1.3160
Denmark	7.4375-7.4380
Euro	1.0001-1.0002
Hong Kong	7.9487-7.9489
Japan	142.89-142.89
Malaysia	4.5245-4.5295
Norway	10.082-10.084
Singapore	1.4047-1.4052
Sweden	10.685-10.687
Switzerland	0.9609-0.9610
Other Sterling	
Argentina peso	165.29-165.30
Australia dollar	1.7126-1.7128
Bahrain dinar	0.4326-0.4395
Brazil real	5.9940-5.9975
Euro	1.1571-1.1572
Hong Kong dollar	9.0802-9.0812
India rupee	91.906-91.907
Indonesia rupiah	17245-17246
Kuwait dinar KD	0.3560-0.3583
Malaysia ringgit	5.2250-5.2308
New Zealand dollar	1.9223-1.9227
Singapore dollar	1.4244-1.4264
S Africa rand	20.186-20.197
U A E dirham	4.2463-4.2486

Exchange rates		
	Bid	Change
Australia \$	1.735	+0.01
Canada \$	1.522	+0.01
Denmark Kr	8.613	+0.04
Euro €	1.158	+0.01
Hong Kong \$	9.089	+0.03
Hungary	469.953	+12.68
Indonesia	17262.043	+117.45
Israel Shk	3.967	+0.01
Japan Yen	165.152	-1.25
New Zealand \$	1.924	+0.01
Norway Kr	11.679	+0.07
Poland	5.467	+0.03
Russia	69.679	-0.13
S Africa Rd	20.204	+0.14
Sweden Kr	12.362	+0.09
Turkey Lira	1.112	+0.05
USA \$	1.158	
Rates supplied by Morningstar		
 Data as shown is for information purposes only. No offer is made by Morningstar or this publication		

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The Times unit trust information service

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
ALLIANZ GLOBAL INVESTORS				
Inv Serv: 020 7065 1400 Helpline: 0800 317 573				
Gilt Yield A £ @	206.01	...	-0.27	...
Strategic Bond Fund £ @	163.64	...	+0.08	0.13
UK Corp Bond £ @	104.79	...	-0.78	3.67
UK Equity C £ @	631.26	...	-14.91	3.28
UK Equity A £ @	389.26	...	-7.40	...
UK Growth A £ @	787.83	...	-186.16	...
UK Index A £ @	1423.81	...	-5.83	3.01
UK Mid Cap A £ @	465.61	...	-11.25	0.07

ARTEMIS FUND MGRS LTD				
0800 092 2051				
Authorised Inv Funds				
Capital R Acc £ @	2087.43	...	-39.04	...
Euro Opps R Acc £ @	91.26	...	-0.48	...
Euro Opps R Inc £ @	85.36	...	-0.46	...
European Growth R Acc £ @	1934.38	...	-7.25	2.32
Global Energy R Acc £ @	42.04	...	-0.28	1.20
Global Growth R Acc £ @	34.68	...	-4.75	...
Global Income R Acc £ @	155.32	...	-2.65	4.10
Global Income R Inc £ @	101.39	...	-1.68	4.25
Global Select R Acc £ @	150.08	...	-3.17	...
High Income R Inc £ @	62.49	...	-0.59	5.59
Income R Acc £ @	484.66	...	-12.51	...
Income R Inc £ @	216.61	...	-5.59	...

Monthly Dist R Inc £ @	64.49	...	-4.73	4.45
Strategic Assets R Acc £ @	80.51	...	-3.19	...
Strategic Bond R M Acc £ @	694.86	...	-0.64	2.55
Strategic Bond R M Inc £ @	50.82	...	-0.34	2.59
Strategic Bond R Q Acc £ @	94.69	...	-0.64	2.67
Strategic Bond R Q Inc £ @	56.59	...	-0.34	2.70
UK Growth R Acc £ @	440.54	...	-18.98	1.25
UK Smaller Cos R Acc £ @	6181.69	...	-60.21	0.88
UK Special Sits R Acc £ @	635.52	...	-19.54	1.12

AXA FRAMINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Dling: 0845 602 1952 Priv Clients: 0845 777 5511				
Equity Inc £ @	572.40	...	-2.70	...
Gilt Acc £ @	201.30	711.80	+0.10	1.08
Health Acc £ @	74.35	78.24	-0.29	1.09
Health Acc £ @	2943.00	...	-61.00	...
Jap Smr Co Ac £ @	62.56	66.09	-0.19	3.00
Managed Inc £ @	138.30	...	...	...
Monthly Inc £ @	237.50	...	-3.40	4.55
UK Growth Inc £ @	216.10	...	-6.70	0.66
UK Select Opps Inc £ @	1392.00	...	-35.00	0.21
UK Smr Cos Inc £ @	270.00	...	-3.80	...

AXA FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Admin & Enq 011 989 0808				
AXA Trusts				
Gen Acc £ @	2101.00	...	+6.00	2.64
Gen Inc £ @	1079.00	...	-2.00	2.70

UK/Global Investment Companies				
Euro Acc A £ @	234.70	...	...	...
Extra Inc B £ @	86.74	...	+0.24	1.16
Global Growth R £ @	288.10	...	+4.10	0.52
Japan Acc A £ @	162.30	...	+2.20	1.51
Pac Growth Acc A £ @	479.80	...	+17.60	2.30

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
08457 46 46 46				
European Growth £ @	188.80	...	-5.20	...
Sus Leaders £ @	745.40	...	-22.40	1.05
UK Growth £ @	596.40	...	-16.80	2.10
Income £ @	205.90	...	-4.30	5.16

CLOSE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0760 606 6402				
Beacon Inv £	84.88	...	+0.35	0.01

Dealing: 020 7426 6232				
Winchester £	3615.76	...	+2.70	0.36

EDENTREE INV MGMT LTD				
0800 358 3010				
Resp & Sust Sterling Bond £17.13	...	...	-0.41	3.73
Resp & Sust Euro Acc £	286.20	...	-7.50	...
Resp & Sust Gbl Eq £	321.00	...	-8.20	0.88
Resp & Sust Mgmt Acc £	125.00	...	-2.50	4.83
Resp & Sust UK Acc £	211.70	...	-2.20	0.99
Resp & Sust UK Equity Opps £260.90	...	...	-6.10	0.91

F & C FUND MANAGEMENT LTD (OEICs)				
Enquiries: 0870 601 6183 Dealing: 0870 601 6083				
Share Class 1 - Retail				
Corporate Bd £ @	49.77	...	-0.28	1.58
Emerging Mkts £ @	124.30	...	-1.30	...
Euro Growth & Inc £ @	1108.00	...	-36.00	...
Extra Bond £ @	42.68	...	-0.12	1.78
FTSE All-Shr Track £ @	413.70	...	-10.50	...
Global Growth SCL £ @	308.60	...	-7.80	...
High Inc Trst £ @	11.14	12.07	-0.09	5.61
Max Inc Bond £ @	44.40	...	-0.27	2.79
Multi Man Caut £ @	70.41	...	-3.18	...
Multi Man Dist £ @	60.44	...	-3.37	...
North Amer £ @	854.30	...	-25.80	...
Pacific Growth £ @	500.50	...	-2.40	...
Strategic Bd £ @	197.10	...	-0.20	1.17
UK Growth £ @	224.00	...	-85.00	...
UK Growth & Inc Acc £ @	656.50	...	-3.25	...
UK Growth & Inc Dist £ @	234.70	...	...	...
UK Smaller Cos £ @	988.00	...	-24.00	...

FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL				
Private Cnts 0800 414161 Broker Digs 0800 414181				
Amer Spec Sits £ @	2380.00	...	-63.00	...
American £ @	507.00	...	-205.00	...
Euro Opps £ @	525.30	...	-17.50	...
European £ @	3077.00	...	-84.00	...
Extra Income £ @	23.04	...	-0.15	4.90
Global Spec Sits £ @	5499.00	...	-162.00	...
Global Focus £ @	2899.00	...	-89.00	...
International £ @	145.50	...	-0.20	0.08
Japan £ @	525.90	...	-0.20	0.08
MoneyMdr £ @	42.26	...	-0.80	3.61
MoneyMdr Rbl £ @	36.60	327.60	-0.10	0.21
MoneyMdr Growth £ @	76.12	...	-0.95	...
MoneyMdr Inc £ @	29.85	...	-0.20	...
MoneyMdr UK Inc £ @	122.64	...	-3.14	...

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits £ @	4320.00	...	-107.00	1.31
Wealthbuilder £ @	69.75	72.18	+0.53	0.44

HALIFAX INVESTMENT FUND MGRS LTD				
01296 386 386				
Authorised Inv Funds				
Share Class C				
Corporate Bond £ @	22.30	...	-0.20	2.84
Ethical £ @	111.40	...	-3.00	0.01
European £ @	99.87	...	-2.93	...
Far Eastern £ @	115.90	...	-0.40	...
Fund of Inv Trst £ @	133.70	...	-4.30	0.26
Intl Growth £ @	124.30	...	-3.40	1.09
Japanese £ @	69.56	...	-0.57	1.37
North Amer £ @	151.40	...	-4.70	0.27
Smaller Cos £ @	105.60	...	-2.00	...
Special Sits £ @	44.59	...	-1.38	1.57
UK Equity £ @	85.08	...	-2.26	...
UK FTSE 100 £ @	68.12	...	-1.46	2.80
UK FTSE All-5 £ @	75.03	...	-1.97	2.64
UK Growth £ @	76.63	...	-2.09	3.36

HSBC GLOBAL ASSET MGMT (UK) LTD				
0845 745 6123 Dlp: 0845 745 6126 Helpline: 016 86				
HSBC Index Tracker Investment Funds (OEIC)				
Amer Ind Acc £ @	932.11	...	-20.21	0.97
Amer Ind Inc £ @	749.59	...	-0.26	0.98
Euro Ind Acc £ @	1063.24	...	-30.09	...
Euro Ind Inc £ @	679.31	...	-19.74	...
FTSE 100 Ind Acc £ @	262.32	...	-4.63	3.29
FTSE 100 Ind Inc £ @	121.13	...	-3.08	3.36
FTSE 250 Ind Acc £ @	278.76	...	-0.49	2.33
FTSE 250 Ind Inc £ @	172.27	...	-5.62	2.32
FTSE All-5 Acc £ @	670.63	...	-17.44	...
FTSE All-5 Inc £ @	344.69	...	-8.87	...
Jap Ind Acc £ @	135.16	...	-2.19	1.95
Jap Ind Inc £ @	105.33	...	-1.71	2.28
Pac Ind Acc £ @	494.16	...	-9.48	...
Pac Ind Inc £ @	311.00	...	-5.96	...

HSBC Investment Funds (OEIC) - Retail Share Class				
Balanced Acc £ @	243.02	...	-3.98	0.58
Balanced Inc £ @	154.95	...	-0.14	...
Corp Bd Acc £ @	261.22	...	-1.58	3.08
Corp Bd Inc £ @	103.09	...	-0.62	3.14
Gilt & Fd Ind Acc £ @	497.78	...	+1.62	1.19
Gilt & Fd Ind Inc £ @	74.17	...	+0.24	1.58
Income Acc £ @	674.75	...	-16.10	4.42
Income Inc £ @	292.10	...	-6.77	4.57
Monthly Inc Acc £ @	313.41	...	-0.77	3.21
Monthly Inc Inc £ @	126.05	...	-2.24	3.94
UK Grth & Inc Ret B Acc £ @	1013.22	...	-3.34	...
UK Grth & Inc Ret B Inc £ @	1062.19	...	-1.50	...
UK Grth & Inc Acc £ @	136.22	...	-3.34	...
UK Grth & Inc Inc £ @	62.19	...	-1.50	...

HSBC Specialist Investment Funds (OEIC)				
American Retail Acc £ @	6933.21	...	-28.21	0.97
American Retail Inc £ @	1649.59	...	-22.66	0.98
Asian Gth Acc £ @	147.77	...	-0.07	...
Asian Gth Inc £ @	130.99	...	-0.08	...
Chinese Acc £ @	513.81	...	+0.27	...
Chinese Gth Inc £ @	434.76	...	+0.22	...
Growth Acc £ @	973.97	...	+4.05	...
Growth Inc £ @	817.05	...	+3.39	...

IGNIS ASSET MGMT				
Dlp: 0141 222 8282				
American Gth Inc £ @	322.55	340.42	-3.34	...
Balanced Growth £ @	262.17	276.69	-0.93	1.52
Balanced Growth Acc £ @	393.13	414.92	-1.40	...
Corporate Bond £ @	99.69	...	-0.29	4.77
European Growth £ @	403.88	426.26	-3.57	1.18
European Growth Acc £ @	475.21	502.07	-2.71	...
Global Growth £ @	331.53	349.90	-3.09	1.12
Higher Yield £ @	83.98	88.64	-0.29	4.43
Higher Yield Acc £ @	275.04	290.28	-0.92	4.32
Japan £ @	49.06	51.78	-0.03	...
Managed £ @	120.89	124.15	-0.08	0.66
Managed Trust £ @	71.96	76.96	-0.17	...
Mngd Philo Inc £ @	95.54	100.84	-0.31	0.58
Pacific Gth £ @	479.71	526.34	-2.61	1.34
Smaller Comp £ @	596.24	798.14	-1.64	...
Smaller Cos £ @	625.94	663.79	-1.56	0.21

INSIGHT INVESTMENT FDS MANAGEMENT LTD				
Client Serv: 0207 163 4000				
Investment Multi-Manager Funds				
Well Blr Bd Acc £ @	96.05	...	-0.32	...
Well Blr Gwth Acc £ @	93.79	...	-0.26	...

INVESTCO FUND MGRS LTD				
Dling: 0800 085 8571 Inv Serv: 0800 085 8677				
Brkr Serv: 0800 028 2121				
Investco Funds				
UK Str Inc W/Tr £ @	323.57	...	-0.12	...

INVESTCO PERPETUAL FUNDS				
Childrens Acc £ @	436.45	...	-14.24	...
Corp Bond Acc £ @	197.47	...	-1.23	...
High Income Inc £ @	216.05	...	-4.63	...
Income & Gth Inc £ @	400.18	...	-9.91	...
Income £ @	123.29	...	-25.50	...
Money Acc £ @	91.10	...	-0.01	0.18
Monthly Plus Inc £ @	92.95	...	-0.68	4.63
UK Growth £ @	154.28	...	-0.24	...
UK Growth Acc £ @	831.21	...	-22.06	...
UK Smr Cos Equity Acc £ @	1388.91	...	-32.91	...
UK Smr Cos Inc £ @	82.54	...	+0.04	...

INVESTEC FUND MGRS				
Broker Support and Dealing: 020 7597 1900				
OEIC Series Liliu, Li & v				
Amer Acc Ex Japan A £ @	654.94	...	-23.93	...
Capital Accumulator A Acc £ @	10231.48	...	-3.61	...
Cautious Managed A Acc £ @	1936.61	...	-3.40	2.02
Cautious Managed A Inc £ @	10233.83	...	-2.16	2.04
Diversified Growth A Acc £ @	10219.48	...	-1.17	0.61
Diversified Growth A Inc £ @	10131.21	...	-1.24	...
Divsified Income A Acc £ @	18133.34	...	-1.92	2.38
Divsified Income A Inc £ @	1067.92	...	-0.41	3.27
Emerging Mkts Bonded Acc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Inc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Inc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Acc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Inc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Acc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Inc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Acc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4.12
Emerging Mkts Bonded Dist Inc £ @	1012.25	...	-0.40	4

Business Equity prices

Dividend yields Please note dividend yields are supplied by Morningstar. The yield is the sum of a company's trailing 12-month dividend payments divided by the last month's ending share price

12 month high and low Please note the 12 month high and low figures for shares supplied by Morningstar are based on intra-day figures, not closing prices.

Automobiles & parts

1963%	153%	Aston Martin Lag	153%	-	3%	...	-0.9
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Banking & finance

263%	141%	abrdn	142%	-	6%	10.2	3.0
3526	1729	Admiral	2198	-	32	6.8	11.2
88%	49	ADVF	56%	...	...	2.6	9.8
426%	246%	Al Bell	275	-	2.5	25.7	...
2937%	2329%	Am Capn	245%	+	69	0.6	60.0
21%	21%	Appreciate Group	24%	...	6.0	10.7	...
1030	810	Arbutnot Bldg	832%	-	17%	1.9	18.4
20	12	Argo Group	12	...	...	...	5.5
370%	192	Ashtmore Gr	215%	-	6%	7.8	7.3
1675%	1231%	Aus New Z	1338	-	30%	6.0	10.4
602%	283%	Aviva	437%	-	5	4.8	57.5
290%	193%	Banco Santander	225%	+	2%	2.8	5.3
2105	986	Bank of Georgia	2105	-	60	...	6.5
217	140%	Barclays	169%	-	2	1.7	4.1
...	...	Blue Star Capital	...	...	...	3.5	...
359	277	BP MarshPtns	300	-	2	0.8	8.2
42	10%	Breavearth Inv	10%	...	...	...	0.2
517	266	Brown Dolphin	513	-	1	2.8	20.0
569	280	Bridgepoint	249	-	9%	...	15.5
90	45	Cadent Secs	45	-	1	7.7	9.1
325	265%	Chesna	314%	-	1%	7.0	17.4
76	31	City of Lon Gp	51%	...	...	...	-3.5
550	395	City of Lon Inv Gp	402	-	4	8.2	9.4
1575	987	Close Bros	1027	-	21	5.8	7.6
317	124%	CMC Markets	224%	+	2%	13.6	6.8
798%	436%	CommerzBk	672%	+	13	...	34.1
1253%	665	Deutsche Bk	778%	-	...	...	9.4
312%	139%	Direct Line Ins	211%	-	2%	10.5	8.7
59%	57	Dominion ONE VCT	57	...	...	4.3	7.7

12 month	Low	High	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yldt %	P/E
1			% Drumc	1	-	-	-8.3
191%	98%	EFH-Hermes Hldg	98%	-	4%	6.3	
415	151%	EPE Special Opps	151%	-	-	8.4	
931%	656%	FBD	891%	-	-	3.9	
90	67%	Fisk	69	-	-	12.2	
83%	63	Freelink Topping	67	-	-	20.38	
725	458%	Georgia Capital	710	-	1	1.9	
1005	765	Gresham House	800	-	0.7	32.1	
474	260	H&M Grp	474	+	3%	1.7	15.2
57	34	Hansard Global	34	-	-	13.0	11.7
199	762%	Hargreaves L	836%	-	24	4.6	14.9
1585	143%	Hellas Under	143%	-	-	2.0	...
567%	359%	HSBC	518%	-	10%	3.1	11.3
857%	648	IG Group	787	-	-	5.4	8.0
1482	50	Impax	586	-	13	1.7	19.3
2379	1218	Intermed Cap	1218	-	27%	4.6	6.9
155%	73	IPF	90	+	1%	2.4	5.0
173%	155%	Intl Publ Pntshp	165%	-	-	5.5	21.2
235%	175%	Investec	389	-	5	3.3	9.7
320	281	Investment Co	285	-	-	0.3	10.2
155%	66%	JP Group	69%	-	1%	1.4	2.6
302%	151	Jarvis Securities	182%	-	4%	7.4	13.1
265	91%	Juniper Fund Mgmt	102	-	3%	16.7	3.8
95%	63%	Just Group	72%	-	2	-	...
660	346%	Lancashire Hdg	536	-	11%	2.1	...
307%	233%	Legal & Gen	259%	-	2%	6.8	7.9
536%	502%	Liberty Group	502%	-	2%	-	...
29%	121	Liontrust	861	-	23	5.4	10.7
62	43%	Livermore Invs	54	+	1%	6.5	3.4
55%	41	Lloyds Bk Gp	46%	-	-	5.5	6.4
36%	29%	LMS Capital	32	-	1%	2.8	13.9

12 month			Price			
High	Low	Company	(p)	+/-	Yldt	P/E
8582	6370	Lond Stk Ex Gp	7900	- 104	0.9	80.7
227%	178%	M&G	195%	- 3%	9.3	61.2
274%	178%	Man	246	- 4%	3.4	9.8
9%	7%	Manx Fin	8%	...	2.0	4.1
4%	1%	Marechal Cap	2%	...	1.2	
15554	12563%	Marsh Mdn	13858%	- 1%	1.4	28.8
892%	645	Mattoli Woods	665	...	3.1	...
27%	13%	Metal Tiger	18%	...	7.1	
133	70%	Metro Bank	88%	+ 5%	...	-0.6
1970%	1520%	Nat Aust Bk	1711%	- 54%	2.8	16.9
283%	207%	NWG	261%	...	3.8	10.6
369	230	Numis	247	- 3	4.8	5.0
599	418%	Onesavings Bank	533	- 7%	3.6	7.0
741	522	PayPoint	601	+ 4	5.3	18.8
14	2%	PCF Group	2%	...	-1.2	
701%	568%	Phoenix Grp	603%	- 7%	7.9	-6.9
381%	166	Proident	182%	- 3%	...	3.4
1509	881	Prudential	938	- 21%	1.2	15.2
3%	1%	Quantum Blockchain	1%	...	-9.3	
185	96%	Quilter	102%	- 3%	5.1	73.3
188%	81%	Randall & Quilter	93%	- 1%	4.1	...
2210	1518	Rathbone Grp	1826	- 18	4.0	14.1
1%	...	Riverfort Global Opp	...	...	2.4	2.4
1820	1370	Rockwood Strategic	1400	...	1.9	2.0
2940	2010	S & U	2165	+ 35	4.1	10.2
3%	1%	Sandus Landing Grp	1%	...	-0.8	
60%	47%	Schroder REIT	48%	- 5%	5.2	5.1
3871	2546	Schroders	2546	- 108	4.5	11.7
2630	1732	Schroders N/V	2160	- 85	5.3	9.9
1731%	1044	St James Place	1090	- 37	5.6	20.7
638%	10	Stand Chart	612%	+ 1%	1.4	13.7

12 month			Price			
High	Low	Company	(p)	+/-	Yldt %	P/E
313	185	Billington Hldgs	190	...	2.2	15.4
345	265	Boat (Henry)	274	...	...	2.0
556%	406	Br Land	406%	- 3%	3.7	55.6
157%	110	Caledonian Tst	152%	...	...	30.4
179%	115%	Cap & Count Prop	115%	- 1%	0.4	34.0
66%	54	Cap & Regnl	59%	+	1%	...
2550	1875	Cardiff Prop	2550	...	0.7	27.7
40	20%	Carecapita	24	...	...	-2.8
183	118%	Clarke T	136%	- 6	3.2	9.8
240	171%	CLS Hldgs	171%	- 3%	4.4	5.8
530	225%	Countryside Prop	246	- 3%	...	17.9
50%	19%	Craven House	19%	...	...	-0.4
4002	2756%	CRHI	3057	- 120%	2.8	12.7
3718	2352	Derwent London	2408	- 14	3.1	10.7
4%	3	Dolphin Capital	3%	...	...	-2.2
36%	27	First Prop	28	...	...	1.6
52%	36%	Fletcher King	44	...	...	...
54	31	Fontaxons Group	35%	...	...	0.5
206%	153%	Galifford Try	160	+	1%	2.9 35.5
751	330%	Genuit Group	330%	-	19	2.6 20.0
850	440	Gleeson (MJ)	464	+	19	3.2 7.2
1390	704	Grafton Gp Uts	731	-	17	4.8 8.4
332%	258%	Grainger	263%	- 3%	2.0	16.3
149	496%	Gr Portland	496%	- 1%	2.5	-6.2
39%	18%	Hammerston	21	- 1%	1.9	-2.2
191	127	Harworth Gp	127%	- 2%	1.4	14.4
630	375	Heath (Samuel)	630	...	...	1.0 13.0
474	343%	Helical PLC	343%	- 9%	2.9	8.3
1065	875	Highcroft Invs	1020	+	5	5.1 4.4
224%	154	Istoback	195	-	1%	2.1 25.3
324	365	James Halstead	206	+	1	3.7 21.9

12 month				Price			
High	Low	Company		(p)	+/-	Yldt	P/E
1436%	889%	Segro		889%	-	16%	2.5
52%	29%	SIG		36	+	...	...
113	41%	SigmaRoc		41%	-	1%	...
144	78	Sirius Real Estate		80	-	1%	4.0
161%	128%	Smart (J)		160%	...	...	2.0
55	26	Steppe Cement		32%	-	1%	11.5
178	103%	Taylor Wimpey		103%	-	3	7.9
178%	120	Town Centre		165	-	1%	2.1
1830	805	Travis Perkins		834%	-	19%	1.4
249	158%	Tritax Big Box Reit		162%	-	1	4.0
118	79%	Tritax Eurobox		79%	...	...	...
444%	209%	Tyman		209%	-	5%	3.8
1207	990%	UNITE GRP		1017	-	12	1.8
1261%	725	Vistry Group		725	-	45%	5.3
176%	140%	Warehouse REIT		150	-	3%	4.1
901	488%	Workspace Grp		502	-	10%	3.5
755	650	Wynnstay Props		680	...	...	3.0

Consumer goods

6%	4	Agriterro	5	...	...	-0.6
32½	25	Airoc	27½	- ½	...	10.1
952	606	Anglo-Eastern	784	- 2	...	7.1
420	265	Animalcare	290	- 7½	1.3	...
2131	1328%	AB Foods	1328%	- 31½	0.4	21.9
135%	79	Bakavor Group	99	...	6.7	10.3
588	466	Barr (AG)	509	- 5	...	-1.0
5%	1%	Bidstack Group	3½	...	...	...
170	37	Brand Architects	37	...	...	-1.6
3628	2512%	Brit Amer Tob	3405%	- 89½	6.3	11.5
962	741	Britvic	772½	- 18	3.1	15.2
2063	1482	Burberry Grp	1772	- 1	2.4	17.5
264%	159%	C&C Grp	159½	- 14	...	-9.5
12%	4%	Capital Metals	5	- 1%	...	-1.3
165	111%	Car's Grp	111½	+	1½	4.4
695	465	Character Grp	523	- 2	1.7	9.3
2025	1070	Churchill China	1200	- 20	...	...
2687	1460%	Coca Cola HBC	1943	- 3	2.7	15.5
880	595	Colefax	790	- 7½	...	13.9
3916	2918	Cranwick	3104	- 8	2.2	16.4
228½	177%	Devro	182½	+	1	4.9
4103%	3343	Diageo	3763½	- 40½	1.9	28.9
2	1	Distil	1½	- ½	...	30.0
1085	737	Evens (WLP)	794	- 16	3.4	6.8
102	66%	Finsbury Food	78½	+	1%	3.0
11990	6005	Games Workshop	6925	- 300	3.6	19.0
1310%	841%	Glanbia	1099%	...	2.1	27.1
146½	84	Greenore	88½	- 1½	...	17.7
512	260	Headlam	269	- 2	2.9	11.5
1250	930	Hilton Food	941	- 26	2.3	19.6
57	25%	Hornby	28½	+	1%	...
1927½	1486	Imperial Brands	1902	- 45	7.2	6.3
1%	1	J Lewis Hford	1%	...	...	7.9
1042%	7711	Kerry Gp	8359%	- 200%	0.8	23.1
83	15½	McBride	23½	-	...	-4.2
870	200	Mulberry Group	245	...	...	10.1
1540	1055	Nichol	1080	- 20	1.7	...
341	204	Norcor	215	- 2	3.8	6.8
379%	285%	Origin Ents	315%	- 19%	2.9	9.9
72	50	Pittards	54%	...	0.9	25.7
710	327%	Portmeirion	354	- 26	3.6	15.0
1	1%	Proxavis	1%	-	...	0.3
249	182%	PZ Cussions	192%	- 4%	3.1	22.2
200%	56%	REA	109	+	1%	...
3%	1%	Real Gd Fd	1%	...	...	...
660	235	Tandem	300	...	2.9	4.2
1315	507	Treant	625	- 5	0.9	25.0
5%	2	Ultraproduct Gp	2	...	...	-1.3
596%	12%	Unbound Group	12%	...	...	...
4						

Equity prices **Business**

12 month						Price						12 month						Price						12 month						Price						12 month						Price					
High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Ytd% P/E	High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Ytd% P/E	High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Ytd% P/E	High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Ytd% P/E	High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Ytd% P/E	High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Ytd% P/E												
841%	30%	IXICO	39	...	...	12.5	427%	319	Bloomsbury Pub	410	+ 6	2.1 16.9	43	21%	Condor Gold	26%	- 1%	...	...	77	27%	Serabi Gold	27%	- 2	...	...	872	594	Renew Hldgs	650	- 18	2.0 16.0	2500	1378	First Derivts	1566	- 16	...	...								
50%	286%	Mediatic Inc	495%	...	...	30.9	11%	4%	Bonhill Group	5%	...	...	...	2	% Corcel	1%	...	-0.3	...	17	27%	Serabi Gold	27%	- 2	...	...	851	534	Renew Hldgs	712	- 20	...	15.0	952%	386%	GB Group	609	- 11	1.0	44%							
81%	1%	N4 Pharma	1%	...	...	-1.9	88	42%	Catalyst Media	87%	...	...	...	8059%	49%	DRD Gold	49%	+ 1%	7.2 5.8	...	450	169%	Serica Energy	380%	- 8%	0.9	...	636%	444%	Rentokil HI	536%	- 10%	1.4 38.0	183	136	GreshamTech	146%	...	0.5	...							
88.42	72.84	Novartis	CHF 78.09	- 1.33	3.4	8.9	1	% Catena	...	...	...	-0.5	1%	% ECR Minerals	...	...	...	-4.5	...	14%	6%	Shanta Gold	9%	+ 1%	1.0 5.8	...	518	403	Restore	422	+ 1	0.5 50.2	193%	42%	Iluka	69	- 6%	...	...								
58%	2%	Omnia Diags	2%	...	...	-1.0	1146	269	Daily Mail	270	- 2%	8.9 10.3	28%	10%	EdenVile Energy	11	...	-0.7	...	2440	141%	Shell	2341	+ 13%	2.5 12.3	...	490	331%	Ricardo	428	- 8	1.6 38.2	102	63%	Ingenio	97	...	1.5 56.7	...								
22%	9	Ovaca Bio	9%	...	...	-2.7	195	100	DCD Media	10	- 30	- 5.0	11%	1	Empyrean Energy	1	...	-7.2	...	2%	1%	Sound Energy	1%	- 1%	...	7.2	...	862	448	Robert Walters	500	+ 10	3.2 11.4	101%	39%	Interced	39%	- 2	...	13.6							
1634	415	Oxford Biomedica	457%	+ 4%	...	20.5	71%	50	Equity	51	...	...	...	2100	151%	Endeavour Mining	1711	- 25	2.8 25.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	10	Reebuck Food Grp	13	...	...	1.9	238%	140	Imart	169%	- 3%	4.2 18.5	...								
7	2%	Physicians	2%	+ 1%	...	...	1466	829	Euroamer In Inv	1448	+ 2	0.7	...	36%	17	EnQuest	30%	- 1	...	1.9	...	...	...	...	...	213	92	RPS Group	210	+ 3	0.1 98.1	179%	125%	K3 Business Tch	125%	...	...	-2.1									
5%	3%	Proteme Scies	4%	+ 1%	...	...	3844	1486	Future	1698	- 120	- 29.2	...	35%	4%	Eurasia Mining	7%	+ 1%	...	...	1	% Thor Mining	1%	...	...	...	...	1255	81%	RS Group	1054	- 38	2.4 26.7	2611%	1436%	LG Electronics	1459%	- 17%	...	3.8							
6808	5391	Reckitt Benck	6454	- 110	2.7	...	1560	390	GlobalData	1047%	- 2%	1.6 51.8	...	3%	1	Europa Oil&Gas	2%	...	-25.9	...	5149%	3165%	Total Eng SE	4458	+ 121%	5.0 10.2	...	47%	19%	RTC Group	20%	...	...	...	%	%	Location Sciences	1%	...	-2.6	...						
164%	31%	RUA Life Sciences	45%	- 1%	...	-4.4	121%	46%	Hvve Group	66	- 1%	...	...	382%	107	Ferropo	150%	- 6%	9.5 1.1	...	1%	% Tower Resources	1%	...	...	-4.6	...	678%	33%	RWS Hldgs	340	- 11	2.7 31.1	820	256%	Micro Focus Ind	520	+ 1	3.4	-5.5							
348	117%	Sareum Hldgs	155	- 5	...	...	624	464%	Informa	548%	- 13%	...	...	806%	622%	Fresnillo	734%	- 1%	3.3 17.4	...	62%	39%	Tullow Oil	50%	+ 1	...	5.0	...	490	350	Science Group	405	...	0.9 18.6	52%	17	Nanoon Grp	521%	+ 1%	...	...						
1369	1008	Smith & Neph	1064	- 29	2.5 24.1	...	125%	61%	ITV	62%	- 3%	...	6.7	...	...	G3 Exploration	28	...	-2.6	...	460	13%	URU Metals	200	...	-2.8	...	40%	28%	Smiths News	28%	- 1%	1.7 2.7	62	52	Netcall	85%	+ 1	0.4	...							
254%	206	Spire Hare	235	- 4%	...	...	12%	7%	Jaywing	7%	...	...	...	41%	21	Galantas Gold	32%	...	-5.5	...	8%	3%	GCM Resources	6	...	-5.0	...	5%	2%	Victoria Oil&Gas	3%	...	-1.8	...	602	317%	ShTree	350	- 13%	12.2 11.3	9	6%	Parity	8%	...	...	
212%	18%	SpiraxEng	21	+ 1%	...	-0.9	12%	3	Live Company Grp	3%	...	-0.7	...	72%	33%	Gem Diamonds	36%	...	-5.3	...	8%	2%	W Resources	2%	...	-0.3	...	137%	90	Synectics	115	- 1%	...	...	...	770	410	Playtech	425%	- 12	...	...					
...	%	Tissue Regenex	1%	...	...	-6.6	...	...	Mediazest	...	...	-6.8	...	37	18%	Getech	18%	...	-4.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92%	38%	Staffline Grp	40%	...	...	31.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...							
47%	30%	Totally	35	- 1%	1.4 55.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...						
615	292	Tristel	345	- 5	1.9 71.1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...						
55%	10%	ValRx	17%	- 1%	...	...	59	34	Merit Grp	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...						

Industrials

181	76%	Accsys Tech	76%	-	%	...	...
59521	3407%	BASF	3692%	-	124%	75	7.2
58691	3835%	Bayor DM50	4638%	-	11%	36	54.1
432	150%	Biochem Tech	170	...	...	...	-5.6
51%	2%	Byotrol	2%	...	...	...	...
71%	6	Camb Gd Timber	6%	...	...	...	-9.0
81%	56%	Cosco Grp	56%	-	1%	2.4	12.6
10410	5908	Croda	6746	-	74	1.4	29.3
1575	83%	Crompton (James)	985	-	...	...	30.0
1571%	96%	Elektros	1091%	-	3	...	...
40%	18	Hardide	18	...	...	...	-3.4
2856	1721	Johnson Mndt	1944	-	73	3.6	24.5
2011	1309	Math	1450%	-	42%	3.5	11.0
102%	75	Robinson	80	...	...	...	6.8
461%	260%	Smith (DS)	272	-	8	4.4	15.4
627%	45%	Swire Pacific	606%	-	16%	2.6	...
28	14%	Symph Environ	16%	...	...	...	...
524%	173%	Synthomer	173%	-	8%	6.9	3.6
2446	1821%	Takeda Pharm	2332%	-	40%	4.9	13.0
13%	4%	Veloxo	6%	...	...	...	-8.1
2600	1590	Victrex	1702	-	81	3.5	20.2
651	487%	Wynnstag Group	612	...	...	...	2.4
448	245%	Zetefas	262%	-	...	...	2.4

Professional & support service

4045	2240	Almiprint Grp♦	3485	- 165	0.3	58.8
555	457	Andrews Sykes♦	522½	...	0.4	16.7
6450	3559	Ashtad	4277	- 49	1.0	20.8
421	421	Asimail Group♦	5½	...	...	...
177½	59	AssetCo♦	70½	- 1	...	0.4
53½	36	Avgien♦	41	...	...	...
148	100	Bighes Traynor♦	139	- 1	2.1	...
290	166½	Blanco Tech♦	166½	- 2	...	59.6
3163	2397	Bunzl	2810	- 87	1.9	21.3
52½	20½	Capita	25½	- ½	...	1.9
51	40	CEPS♦	4½	...	...	-9.4
130	89	Christie Group♦	121½	+ 4	...	51.7
1949½	1436	Compass	1907	- 21	0.7	46.4
48	178½	CPGroup♦	185	...	16.2	...
93½	64	Coca Security♦	64	...	...	3.1
6486	4750	DCM	4896	- 170	3.2	16.1
189	73	De La Rue	92½	- 4	...	12.1
3460	2158	Diploma	2526	- 50	1.6	45.1
1262	597	Discoverie	756	- 15	1.3	61.8
68½	23½	Driver Group♦	31½	...	4.7	15.0
357	189½	Essentra	189½	- 8½	2.8	21.2

Retailing

244	37%	AO World	43	-	2	...	...
644	347	BGM European	347	-	5%	4.9	8.0
54%	21%	Brown ID♦	24%	+	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	7.1
5	40%	Card Factory	46%	+	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
2770	1549	CVS Group♦	1729	+	6	0.3	48.4
189	117%	DFS Fun	135%	-	5%	5.2	7.2
2521	670%	Dumelm	748	+	25	4.6	10.0
949%	562%	Fraser's Group	799%	-	21%	...	35.5
3416	1804	Gropps♦	1959	-	37	0.7	17.1
370	124%	Halfords†	150%	-	3%	3.3	5.0
975%	552%	Holloway Join	583	-	17	2.3	10.0
928	647	Inchcape	737	-	19	1.8	24.9
7%	2%	IQ-AL	2%	...	...	...	-6.5
234	102%	JD Sports	125%	-	1%	0.2	15.2
370%	229%	Kingfisher	243%	-	3%	4.9	6.1
101	56%	Lookers	77%	-	1%	...	5.0
256%	120%	Marks Spencer	120%	-	1%	...	92.4
19%	6	Mothercare♦	10%	-	1%	...	-6.2
858	90%	Naked Wines♦	90%	-	54%	...	...
8426	5732	Next	5802	-	26	...	11.0
1919	633%	Occo Op	623%	-	56	...	...
28%	17%	Pendragon	23	+	2%	...	7.1

Telecoms

291	120%	AdEPT Technology	121%	-	1%	...
170%	93%	Airtel Africa	139	-	4%	23.124
200%	135%	BT Group	140%	-	2%	...
140	58%	Cyrus pils	64%	1-	...	13.6
2080	1026	Gamma Comms	1186	+ 12	10	21.4
189	110	Helios Towers	122%	+	3%	...
6853	1148%	Just Eat T'way	1501%	-	3	-3.2
3%	3%	Mobile Streams	3%	-	...	-6.1
3%	10%	Mobile Tornado	3%	-	...	-5.2
2250	310	Telecom Plus	1732	- 38	3.2	44.4
139%	106%	Vodafone Gp	107	-	1%	7.2

Leisure

478	116%	888 Hlds	116%	-	5%	8.4	8.6
992	544	Accesso Tech	570	+ 24	...	15.0	...
240	370	Best of the Best	440	- 5	1.1	4.9	...
1766%	619%	Carnival	769%	-	3%	...	-1.2
140	95	Celtic	109	...	...	...	-10.7
825%	1%	CineWorld	2%	...	...	...	-0.1
46%	226%	Domino's Pizza	244	- 5%	4.9	12.4	12.4
2377	1075%	Entain	1202	- 23	...	26.0	...
15890	7614	Flutter Ent	10325	- 170	...	...	...
...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...
300	22	Gaming Realms	290	...	...	...	-17.4
200	170	Heavirtue	185	+ 1	...	...	-11.1
145	90	Hermes Pacific	145	...	...	...	...
5338	4193	Intercont HTls	4813	- 17	...	45.0	...
1%	$\frac{2}{3}$	Minoan Grp	1	...	...	...	-7.8
2731%	14%	Milch & Butlers	165%	- 3%	...	...	...
391%	101%	On The Beach	136	+ 7%	...	-7.1	...
1600	1274	PPHE Hotels	1375	+ 15	...	...	...
129%	73%	Rank Grp	73%	- 4%	...	9.9	...
174%	39%	Resort	44	- 2%	...	-8.3	...
35%	21%	Rotals	34	...	...	...	...
40	19%	Sportech	20	- $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...
303%	201%	SSP Group	206%	-	...	-4.4	...

Natural resources

2%	1/4	ADM Energy♦	1/4	...	...	...
5%	...	Advance Energy♦	1/4	...	...	-0.1
64%	18%	AFC Energy♦	23%	-	1 1/2	...
...	...	Afentra PLC	...	...	...	...
1/4	1/4	Alba Mineral Res♦	...	...	...	-3.0
1 1/4	1/2	Alben Metals♦	1/2	...	...	...
134%	80%	Alumina	84%	-	1 1/4	5.4 17.6
1 1/4	1/2	Aminex	1	...	...	-6.4
3%	1/4	Amur Mills Corp♦	1	...	...	...
1260%	6186%	Anglo Amer Plat♦	6186%	-	42	7.8 4.4
4170%	2470%	Ang Am♦	2851%	-	69	6.2 5.6
132%	68	Anglo Asian Ming♦	68	-	2 1/2	8.5 5.9
1781%	991%	Antofagasta♦	1164%	-	45 1/2	4.5 12.0
5%	2 1/4	Arc Minerals♦	3 1/2	...	...	-2.5
4%	2 1/4	Ariana Res♦	2%	...	...	-3.8
1/4	1/4	Ardk Resources♦	1/2	...	...	-2.0
6%	1 1/4	Armadale Cap♦	1 1/4	-	1 1/4	...
3	1	Asiatic Res♦	1	...	...	...
448	210	Atlatlaya Min♦	224	-	1	13.0 2.8
...	...	Baron Oil♦	...	...	...	...
17%	3%	Bowfield Mining♦	4%	...	...	...
1/4	...	Bezzant Res♦	...	...	...	-1.8

Technology

156	100	Access Intel	100%	...	...	...
164	130	Aferian Inc	131	...	2.2	23.5
213	137	Alfa Financial	163	-	4	0.6
238	9%	Allied Molds	11%	...	...	-1.0
710	290	Apollito Software	419	+ 23	1.2	47.0
721	465	Avast	716%	- 3%	1.6	28.5
4085	1924	Aveva Gp	3048	- 2	1.2	...
299	126%	Bango	199%	- 2	...	...
94%	26%	BATM Adv Coms	28%	- 1/2	2.7	1.1
34	8%	Berkeley Res	19%	...	...	-4.4
38%	15%	BlackCoCo	19%	- 1/2	...	...
1%	1%	CloudCoCo	1%	...	-2.2	...
3030	2134	Computacenter	2134	...	2.5	13.2
99	71	Concurrent Tech	86%	+ 1/2	2.9	20.5
14%	8%	Corcor	10%	...	...	...
2640	1340	Crawneau	1790	- 60	1.5	81.6
3	2	Crimson Tide	2%	...	...	-16.6
27%	11%	CyanConn Hldgs	14%	- 3/2	...	...
386	221	D44 Solutions	241%	- 3/2	1.1	28.6
1%	...	DeepMatter Gp	1%	...	-0.3	...
24	19	Dillstone Group	19%	+ 1/2	...	-5.6
1%	7%	EDTEC	1%	...	-5.0	...
1362	712	FDOM Group	712	- 26	6.0	24.7
16%	9	Filtronic	13%	...	...	-35.4

Utilities

90%	49%	Centrica	82%	- 2%	- 8.3
258	178	ContourGlobal	253%	- 2	5.0 28.6
831	412	Drax Group	711%	- 18%	2.5 52.7
627%	51%	Jersey Electricity	550	+ 2%	3.0 10.4
1245%	48%	Nat Grid	105%	- 26%	4.6 24.5
15	5%	OPF Power	61%	-	- 4.2
1247	1%	Pennon	939	- 26	3.4 68.0
%	%	Rurelec	%	-	- -0.4
3211	2603	Severn Trent	2684	- 102	37
1920	1525	SSE	1746%	- 46%	4.6 6.8
1176%	968%	UD Utilities	1039	- 32%	4.1 95.3

Media

7%	1/8 Digital Grp	1/8	...	...	-1.8
80	37 Aeorema Comms	72	-	2	...
40 1/2	20 1/2 Altitude Grp	27	...	...	19.9
152 1/2	72 Arcontech Grp	81 1/2	-	1	3.3 11.2
448	195 Ascential	219	-	9	...
741 1/2	499 1/2 Auto Trader	622 1/2	-	20 1/2	0.8 30.7

◆ AIM company; # Price at suspension;
† Ex dividend; % Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue;
▼ Ex all; % Ex capital distribution; * figures
or report awaited; ... No significant data.
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Ocean

Azure



Azure

Nantucket

Sand

Ocean

Toffee



**Redoubtable adviser
to Kenneth Clarke**
Lady Keswick
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Obituaries

Ken Starr

Prosecutor whose investigation into President Clinton exposed his affair with Monica Lewinsky and led to his impeachment

The concept of an independent counsel, Ken Starr once said, was “stupid, stupid, stupid”. He took the job anyway.

Starr may have been driven by a sense of patriotic and moral duty as well as the knowledge that making a success of the thorny task was the last chance to bolster his case for a seat on the US Supreme Court under a future Republican administration.

However, the prominent conservative lawyer and judge had cause to regret the role he accepted in 1994 as imbrolios sprouted in the White House. A panel of judges appointed him to dig into misconduct allegations against President Clinton, his wife, Hillary, and others in their orbit.

Starr's dogged investigations lasted five years, cost \$40 million and led to the impeachment of the president over his affair with an intern, Monica Lewinsky. But when Clinton was acquitted of perjury and obstruction of justice by the Senate in February 1999, Starr's long-cherished Supreme Court ambitions lay in ruins.

His reputation had already been ravaged by the interminable and bitterly divisive process and the prurient elements in his 445-page report, which delved into the connection between Lewinsky and Clinton in graphic detail. The description of Clinton's unorthodox use of a cigar, and of a stained blue dress, became fodder for comedians and a media sensation. Websites were crippled by high demand as millions of internet users tried to download the Starr report after it was published in 1998.

His middle name was Winston — his parents admired Churchill

Starr aimed to show that Clinton had lied under oath about his sexual relationship with Lewinsky; but to critics the passages served as evidence that he was a prude seeking to humiliate the president. Regardless, an inquiry that had its genesis in arcane land deals in Arkansas had clearly taken an unexpected direction.

The investigation was depicted as a battle between Democrats and Republicans that pitted a charming philanderer against a strait-laced zealot. Lewinsky, meanwhile, was collateral damage. Starr described her in 2018 as “a tragic figure of late 20th-century America”.

Despite the revelations, Clinton remained popular while Starr was widely viewed as puritanical and vindictive. Starr termed himself “the most criticised man in America” and lamented the toll the episode took on his family. He accused the Clintons and their allies of casting him as the villain, when, in Starr's telling, he was simply a dedicated public servant who was determined to pursue the truth and to go wherever that search might lead him.

Though the Clintons were never charged with a crime stemming from the Whitewater scandal, 15 people were convicted. Starr's investigation into alleged fraud in Arkansas, where Bill Clinton had served as governor, led to the successful prosecution in 1996 of his successor, Jim Guy Tucker, and two of Clinton's former business partners.



Starr with his report testifying at the impeachment hearing in 1998; Clinton and Lewinsky, above; his 2018 memoir, below

Starr pursued the president with all the wide-ranging powers provided to the independent counsel, setting up a small army of lawyers in Washington and Little Rock, Arkansas, in an investigation that became the most expensive of its kind in US history.

He looked into the case of Paula Jones, a former Arkansas state employee who sued Clinton over an alleged case of sexual harassment, and learnt that Lewinsky had told her friend Linda Tripp (obituary, April 9, 2020), a former White House secretary, about her affair with Clinton.

Tripp handed over 22 hours of recorded conversations to Starr, who persuaded her to meet Lewinsky while wearing a wire. In December 1998, Clinton, who had publicly declared “I did not have sexual relations with that woman”, became the first American president to be impeached since Andrew Johnson in 1868.

Kenneth Winston Starr — his parents admired Winston Churchill — was born in Vernon, Texas, in 1946. His father, William, served as a Churches of Christ minister while working part-time as a barber to make ends meet. The youngest of three children, Starr was raised not to drink or smoke, though he later represented a tobacco company. At high school in San Antonio he grew interested in politics and later told an interviewer that he identified with Richard Nixon during the Nixon-Kennedy election of 1960

because of Nixon's “humble roots and the way he worked his way up”.

Every night as a boy, recalled his mother, Vannie (née Trimble), “he polished his shoes, and his daddy's shoes too, just sitting down on the floor in front of the TV”. Possessing a formidable work ethic and genteel southern manners, Starr sold Bibles from door to door to help pay for his education, earning an undergraduate degree in history from George Washington University in the capital, where he would show up in class in a jacket and tie.

After a master's degree in political science at Brown University in Rhode Island in 1969, he studied law at Duke University in North Carolina. In 1970 Starr married Alice Mendell, the daughter of a New York real estate developer. She later worked for a property company.

Their marriage endured an inauspicious beginning: they arrived at their honeymoon hotel in Pennsylvania and discovered the building had burnt down. She survives him with their three children: a son, Randy, and two daughters, Carolyn and Cynthia.

After graduation from Duke in 1973 — having avoided being drafted for the Vietnam War through a deferment for a case of psoriasis — Starr clerked for the Supreme Court chief justice Warren Burger until 1977. He subsequently entered private practice and in 1981

became chief of staff to President Reagan's first attorney-general, William French Smith. Two years later Reagan appointed Starr to the prestigious DC federal appeals court, a traditional waiting room for Supreme Court nominees, at the tender age of 37.

In 1989 he became President Bush's solicitor-general, also teaching at a Sunday school in Virginia, and was said to have sung hymns during his morning jogs. However, he was too bland and bookish to thrill Washington power-brokers and the job inevitably involved alienating influential people. In one case he sided with whistleblowers against the Bush administration.

Bush looked elsewhere when a Supreme Court seat became vacant in 1990, with some rightwingers feeling Starr was insufficiently conservative. After Bush left office in 1993, Starr was reported to be earning \$1 million a year as a corporate lawyer before he took the fateful decision to become the independent counsel.

Starr returned to private practice after Clinton's acquittal. The law that established the office of independent counsel, which dated back to the Watergate scandal, was not renewed.

He held positions at several American law schools and in 2004 was appointed dean of the law school at Pepperdine University, a Christian institution in Malibu, California. Starr was part of a legal team that helped the wealthy financier and sex offender Jeffrey Epstein to secure a remarkably lenient plea deal in 2008 after being accused of soliciting and procuring a minor for prostitution.

He also argued before the California

Register



Supreme Court in favour of a ban on same-sex marriage.

Starr moved to Waco, Texas, in 2010 for what proved to be a disastrous stint as president of the largest Baptist university in the world, Baylor University.

Under his tenure the university was embroiled in a sexual assault scandal centred on the conduct of its American football team. In 2016, two years after the opening of Baylor's new \$266 million, 45,000-capacity stadium, it emerged that 17 women had reported being assaulted by 19 players since 2011, with four allegations of gang rape.

The university engaged a law firm to conduct what proved to be a damning external review, which found that a lack of oversight and failure to support victims had allowed the team to act as if it was “above the rules”. Starr denied any personal involvement in the lapses, but three months after being demoted in 2016 he resigned — as, he said, “a matter of conscience”, since “captains go down with the ship”.

No one seriously questioned his conservative credentials in his later years and one of his protégés, Brett Kavanaugh, who worked on the Clinton investigation, was appointed to the Supreme Court during the Donald Trump administration.

Starr came to the aid of a president facing impeachment in 2020, joining Trump's defence as the Republican was accused of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. Trump, who had in the late Nineties called Starr “a total wacko”, was acquitted by the Senate after what Starr asserted was an “anti-constitutional exercise of power” by Democratic representatives.

Starr wrote several books, including *Religious Liberty in Crisis: Exercising Your Faith in an Age of Uncertainty* (2021) and *Contempt: A Memoir of the Clinton Investigation* (2018), in which he mounted a forceful, if belated, case for his defence.

“I deeply regret that I took on the Lewinsky phase of the investigation,” he wrote. “But at the same time, as I still see it twenty years later, there was no practical alternative to my doing so.”

He characterised Bill and Hillary Clinton as “fundamentally dishonest”, adding that “much of the drama was tragically unnecessary, a self-inflicted wound by a talented but deeply flawed president who believed he was above the law”.

Yet “an indulgent and prosperous nation readily forgave Bill Clinton and instead blamed the prosecutor”, he wrote. “That would be me.”

Ken Starr, lawyer, judge and administrator, was born on July 21, 1946. He died of complications from surgery on September 13, 2022, aged 76

Register

Lady Keswick

Redoubtable special adviser to Kenneth Clarke who entered politics after a power cut and led the Centre for Policy Studies

Aristocratic, extremely rich and on the right of the Conservative Party, Lady Keswick was described as the unlikely special adviser to Kenneth Clarke. Yet she remained with the jazz-loving, suede-shoes-wearing “man of the people” for six years as he rose to increasingly important cabinet posts at Health, Education, the Home Office and the Treasury.

When contacted to be offered the role of his special adviser at the Department of Health in 1988 the phone was answered by her butler but she was soon fighting with Clarke in the trenches as they tried to persuade officials and doctors to accept an internal market in health — a two-year period she compared to “the battles of the Somme”.

At Education (1990-92) and the Home Office (1992-93) she strongly backed Clarke's robust stance in standing up to the teaching unions and the police, while at the same time helping to “keep temperatures down”. Yet there were differences on some issues between Clarke, seen as a rising figure on the centre-left, and Keswick, who was described by a friend as “Clarke's right-wing conscience”.

The daughter of a war hero who was a former Tory councillor in Kensington and married to one of Britain's richest men, Keswick was well connected within the Conservative Party and in the media. As such she revelled in her role of ensuring that Clarke presented policies with what she called in her cut-glass accent “bom-pom-pom”. And although she soon gave up trying to make him look a little less scruffy because it was “obviously pointless”, she drew the line at him announcing the liberalisation of licensing laws while brandishing a cheroot and a pint, despite his plea that “I can't see wrong anything with it”.

In 1993 she moved with Clarke to the Treasury, after the UK's withdrawal from the ERM and the sacking of the chancellor Norman Lamont. Her doubts about a single currency did not sway the chancellor, who strongly favoured joining the euro. Aware of unhappiness in John Major's No 10 about Clarke's pro-EU declarations, she regularly tried but failed to get him to moderate his remarks. Nonetheless, her influence on his budgets was said to be considerable. Described as “feisty” in the days when women with strong and strident opinions earned the moniker as a matter of course, she was said to “give as good as she gets” in their debates. Profiles also noted that she was charming and slightly flirtatious with a roaring laugh, belying her more demure exterior, with a taste for restrained designer clothes and carefully styled dark hair, regularly coiffured at the Savoy.

In his memoir Clarke described Keswick as “a highly intelligent aristocratic Scot who became a key political aide battling alongside me”. She responded with typical candour: “It is personally



Keswick in her London apartment in 1989 and, top, with Sir Henry Keswick, her second husband whom she married in 1985

wounding that after more than six years of slave labour for him that he cannot say anything nicer than that I am an aristocrat and ‘right-wing’, clearly both insults in his book.” Yet their mutual respect was deep. In an interview with the *Evening Standard* in 1993 she described Clarke as “astute, able, robust but always prepared to listen and tremendously active” and “on money matters he could not be more Thatcherite”. Clarke was said to be devastated when she resigned as his special adviser in 1995.

Soon afterwards she became director of the Conservative Centre for Policy

She recalled the lights flickering and not having a cooker to make dinner

Studies (CPS). The think tank had been established by Sir Keith Joseph in 1974 to promote free market ideas after the corporatist policies of the government of Ted Heath from 1970 to 1974.

Her appointment was met with misogynistic scorn by some in the party, who viewed her as insufficiently right-wing and complained that she lacked the erudition to hold a senior post at the think tank that had laid the ideological foundations for Thatcherism. One unnamed critic told a journalist that “she's just a jolly girl who watched Clarke's back”. Not for the first time, she was underestimated.

Little did the critics know the forceful and eloquent way she rewrote some officials' papers to better represent Clarke's views. Her time in Whitehall had made her sensitive to ministers' need for practical policies as well as radical ideas. As director she emerged as an authoritative yet emollient figure, who managed to largely avoid controversy, generated more than 100 policy pamphlets and restored its finances. In 2004 she was rewarded with the appointment of deputy chairwoman, holding the post until 2017. The CPS chairman, Lord Saatchi, admired and learnt from her political and managerial skills. He admitted: “She changed my life.”

Annabel Thérèse (known as Tessa) Fraser was born in 1942, the third of six children to Simon “Shimi” Fraser, Master of Lovat and 15th Lord Lovat, and Rosamond Delves Broughton. Her father was a decorated D-Day war hero and the exploits of his company of commandos were celebrated in the film *The Longest Day* (1962), in which he was played by Peter Lawford. Her maternal grandfather was tried and acquitted in Nairobi for the murder of his wife's lover, Lord Erroll, in 1941, a scandal dramatised in the film *White Mischief*.

She was brought up at Beaufort Castle in Inverness-shire, the ancestral family home. Miserable at the independent Catholic Sacred Heart Convent School in Woldingham, Surrey, she left at 15 having already passed A-levels in French and English litera-

ture. Adventurous, energetic and confident, she decided to travel. She ended up in London selling adverts for *The Spectator* and in 1964, aged 21, she married Hugh Mackay, 14th Lord Reay. They had three children: Aeneas is 15th Lord Reay and a corporate financier, Laura is a psychotherapist, and Edward a pilot.

By 1973 she was separated from her husband and living in Notting Hill with her children. With Britain in the grip of a three-day week and power cuts, Keswick recalled the lights flickering on and off and not having a working cooker to make dinner for her children. At her wits' end, she described the moment as a political awakening. Her marriage was dissolved in 1978, strengthening her resolve to make her own way.

She edited the oil magazine *B&E International* and in the 1980s worked for Cluff Investments. She became a director and a trading executive in China, which she first visited in 1982 for Cluff.

Naturally sociable, she made friends easily and was an avid reader on politics. Her uncle Sir Hugh Fraser was a Conservative MP and first husband of Lady Antonia Fraser. Another uncle was Sir Fitzroy Maclean, a diplomat and Tory MP who was sent as Churchill's special envoy to the Yugoslav leader Tito in 1943. She began to think she could make a mark in Conservative politics and was elected as a Conservative councillor in Kensington from 1982 to 1986. In the 1987 general election she stood for the

party in what might be regarded as her home seat of Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber. Her party might have won a landslide victory nationally but she was overtaken by the Labour candidate for second place behind the sitting Liberal MP Russell Johnston. The loss ended her hopes to become an MP but not her political ambitions.

Two years earlier she had married her second husband Henry (later Sir Henry) Keswick, a second cousin who had loved her since they had mixed when they were young. “Henry had been waiting,” said one who knew both. He was chairman of Jardine Matheson, which had built its fortune trading in Hong Kong. The private family wealth was reckoned to exceed £6 billion. Attendance at the Keswicks' weekend parties and soirées was eagerly sought. She and her husband brought together friends from the arts, literature, business and politics. They had large estates in Scotland and Wiltshire but their London base was in Smith Square, a stone's throw from Conservative Party headquarters. She is survived by her husband and the three children from her first marriage.

In 2014 she was appointed chancellor of the University of Buckingham, Britain's first independent university. Buckingham was well connected with leading figures in the Conservative Party and previous chancellors included Baroness Thatcher and Lord Hailsham. She supported the university's ideals and handled internal diplomatic issues with skill. She was the second most generous donor in the university's history and her connections in the corporate world helped to raise further funds. In 2020 she retired, beset by worsening health.

Keswick remained a passionate sinophile and her marriage gave her access to many leading figures in China after its reopening under Deng Xiaoping. She studied its history and culture and travelled widely after 1997, at one point living with a Chinese family to learn Mandarin. In 2020 she published her well-received book on China, *The Colour of the Sky After Rain*. She told *The Times* that when she first visited the country in 1982 to scout out business opportunities, everyone was “wearing cloth caps” and were hunched in disinterest. “They were all complete communists and everything was dark and miserable.” Today, she said, “they are natural capitalists and love being rich. The big cars, the big buildings — you see it all now in the Chinese cities.”

Above all, she urged British commentators and policymakers to humour the Red Dragon and acquire a greater understanding of the Chinese.

Lady Keswick, Conservative policy adviser, was born on October 15, 1942. She died of ovarian cancer on September 13, 2022, aged 79

Lives remembered

Queen Elizabeth II



Bill Kay writes: At the Queen's Coronation, I was a small boy with what I thought would be a privileged place along the procession route because my father was part

of the Metropolitan Police line in Regent Street. However, when I slipped in alongside him I found that in front of the police was a line of soldiers blocking my view. I caught a glimpse of the Gold State Coach and I think the Queen (obituary,

September 8) waved at me. Or did she? There was no doubt on another occasion 32 years later, when Her Majesty and Prince Philip visited *The Times* offices and I was presented to them as the City editor.

Mavis Nicholson



Dame Maureen Lipman writes: Mavis Nicholson (obituary, September 13) could get blood out of a stone and secrets out of closed lips. Her, sadly de-

stroyed, tape of her clash with Jimmy Savile was classic Mave. On a warm day he approached her in the “hostility” room and ran his hand up the inside of her batwing sleeve. After flinching she rounded on him saying, “And how would you like it if I did this to you?” and went for him. He ran shouting, “Don't touch me, don't touch me!”

“Not a great way to start an interview,” Mave told me wryly. In the course of the interview, which was live, he mentioned the work he did for God several times. “And tell me, James,” said Mave, her dark eyes twinkling, “is it for God that you allow so many girls of 15 or less in your caravan?” His face darkened. He splut-

tered and tried to shrug off her words, went cold and soon cut short the interview.

Leslie Priestley



Ian Morison writes: During his time running the Committee of London Clearing Bankers, Leslie Priestley (obituary, September 9) had the Labour left to contend with as well as the Tory right. The threat of bank nationalisation seemed a

real one but Priestley rightly judged that without support from the workforce it would never happen. Nor, in part through his persistent lobbying of the main banking union, did it.

During this campaign he and I found ourselves in Paris for talks with executives of the large French nationalised banks. He was not exactly a francophile. Eating out one evening I recall that I had to send his steak back three times before it was sufficiently “bien cuit” for him to broach it.

If you would like to add a personal view or recollection to a published obituary, you can email it to tributes@thetimes.co.uk

Court Circular



Buckingham Palace

14th September, 2022
The Coffin bearing The late Queen was borne in State from Buckingham Palace this afternoon on a Gun Carriage of The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, flanked by the Escort Party found by 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, to travel to the Palace of Westminster to Lie-in-State in Westminster Hall.

The Coffin was followed by The King, The Prince of Wales, The Duke of Sussex, The Duke of York, The Earl of Wessex, The Princess Royal, Mr Peter Phillips, The Duke of Gloucester, The Earl of Snowdon and Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence.

Other Members of the Royal Family travelled separately. The King and The Queen Consort, The Prince and Princess of Wales, The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, The Duke of York with Princess Beatrice, Mrs Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi and Mr Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi and Princess Eugenie, Mrs Jack Brooksbank and Mr Jack Brooksbank, The Earl and Countess of Wessex with The Lady Louise Mountbatten-Windsor and Viscount Severn, The Princess Royal and Vice

Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, Mr Peter Phillips, Mr and Mrs Michael Tindall, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke of Kent, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy and other Members of the Royal Family were received at the North Door of Westminster Hall by the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Lord Speaker and the Speaker.

The King and The Queen Consort and other Members of the Royal Family attended a Service for the Reception of the Coffin conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Dean of Westminster (the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle).

A Guard of Honour, found by The King's Guard with the State Colour, was formed up in front of Buckingham Palace.

A Guard of Honour found by the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force, with the Band of the Royal Marines was formed up in Parliament Square.

His Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen and Arms and The King's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty in the Palace of Westminster.

Kensington Palace

14th September, 2022
The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall this morning held a Meeting with the Duchy of Cornwall Finance Committee via video link.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

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HIS lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Matthew 25:21 (AV)

Bible verses are provided by the Bible Society

Births

SMALL on 9th September 2022 to Marie Balchin and Philip, a daughter, Darcy Carolyn, sister to Chloe.

Forthcoming Marriages

MR A. C. QUICK AND MISS P. W. WRIGHTSON
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of the late Cmdr and Mrs John Quick of Ashbrittle, Somerset, and Priscilla, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Anthony Wrightson of London.

Deaths

BUCHAN Malcolm Harry Erskine, 17th Earl of Buchan, died suddenly on 11th September 2022, aged 92. Now reunited with his adored wife Hilary. Loving father of Harry, Seraphina, Monty and Arabella. Beloved Grandpa and Great-Grandpa to Alex, Katie, Freddie, Ellie, Iona, Milo, Honor, Alfie and Penelope. Funeral service on Wednesday 5th October at noon at St Stephen's, Lansdown Road, Bath BA1 5SX. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, via W. F. Dolman & Son, tel: 01225 44410.

EUSTACE John died peacefully on 7th September 2022, aged 86, at home.

LAMBERT Michael Anthony CBE on 24th August 2022, aged 93. The service of thanksgiving at Saint Andrew's Church, Colne Engaine, has been moved from Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st September at 2pm.

MEYNELL Reverend Honor Mary. Much loved and missed. Funeral Friday 23rd September 2022. Service at St Michael's Church, Kirk Langley, Derbyshire, at 2pm, followed by interment in the churchyard. Family flowers only please. Donations may be given for St Michael's Church PCC and WaterAid. Inquiries to W. Jones & Son, Funeral Directors, Main Road, Brailsford, Ashbourne, DE6 3DA. Tel: 01335 360319.

ROE Dr Peter Frank died on 8th September 2022, aged 91, "with Christ, which is far better". He was deeply loved by his devoted wife Margaret, and loved and mourned by his children Andrew and Helen, and by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A service of thanksgiving will be held at 2.30pm on Friday 23rd September at Taunton Minster, St Mary Magdalene. No flowers please. Instead, donations if desired to Médecins sans Frontières. Any inquiries to Taunton Funeral Service. Tel 01823 321077.

WALKER John Leslie on 23rd August 2022, aged 94, died at his home in Knebworth. Service of thanksgiving (after an earlier cremation) at St Martin's, Knebworth, on 23rd September at 2pm. Donations to Christian Aid.

In Memoriam - Private

ROY HASLEHURST In loving memory of our beloved husband and father who died suddenly 15th September 2017. Never forgotten. Trish, Emma, Ashling and Rory.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

To place notices for these sections please call
020 7481 4000

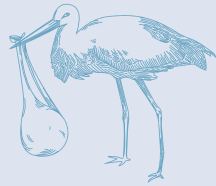
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 11.30am three days prior to insertion

Legal Notices

CITATION: ALMAN
Richard Alman, last heard of at Hintergasse 4, Langstadt, Babenhausen, Darmstadt-Kreis, Deutschland 64832, executor named in a will dated the 26th day of December 2016 of James Henry Alman, late of 432 Allenby Road, Southall, UB1 2HT, who died on the 13th day of August 2018, is cited to apply within one month of the publication of this notice to the Liverpool District Probate Registry at Queen Elizabeth II Law Courts, Derby Square, Liverpool, L2 1XA. (Estate about £569,000 house Zoopla and £312,718 money in bank). Signed: District Registrar Solicitors: Bhogal Partners Solicitors of 33 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3BW, United Kingdom

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Legal Notices

ABN·AMRO Investment Solutions

ABN AMRO FUNDS

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable
Registered office: 49, avenue J.F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg
R.C.S. Luxembourg; B78762
(The "Company")

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE SUB-FUND

"ABN AMRO Funds EdenTree European Sustainable Equities"
OF THE COMPANY

The shareholders of the above-mentioned sub-fund (the "Sub-Fund") are hereby informed of the following:

General amendments of the Company's prospectus:

The board of directors of the Company (the "Board of Directors") has decided to amend the Company's prospectus (the "Prospectus"), dated 15 October 2022, with non-substantial changes for harmonization/coherence and regulatory purposes.

Amendment to the particularities of the Sub-Fund:

The Board of Directors has decided to amend the Sub-Fund's particulars in order to reflect its transition from article 8+ of the Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector ("SFDR") into article 9 of the SFDR in the Prospectus of the Company as follows (additions in bold, restructuring underlined and deletions in strikethrough):

"Investment objective

To provide long-term capital appreciation with a diversified and actively managed portfolio of European sustainable equities, without any specific restriction on tracking error. The sub-fund uses a combination of financial and non-financial indicators to identify securities which meet the overall sustainability criteria applied by the External Investment Manager. The sustainability criteria are designed to identify companies with strong Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) characteristics criteria. The portfolio will be composed by issuers that exposed to four long-term sustainable themes such as Education, Health & Wellbeing, Social Infrastructure and Sustainable Solutions. The portfolio will be composed of issuers that are either leading in ESG best-practice or attractive due to their progression in ESG. In addition to this, securities will also be in line with at least 1 of 5 focus areas: Education, Health & Wellbeing, Social Infrastructure, Sustainable Solutions, or have committed to, or approved a Science Based emissions reduction Target. The sub-fund will use a selection of securities complying with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) responsibility criteria. The portfolio will be composed of issuers that are either leading in ESG best-practice or attractive due to their progression in ESG.

Investment policy

The sub-fund invests predominantly in transferable equity securities such as equities, other equity shares such as co-operative shares and participation certificates issued by, or warrants on transferable equity securities of, companies which are domiciled in or exercise the predominant part of their economic activity in Europe. The minimum asset allocation in such securities on a consolidated basis (direct and indirect investments) will be at least 60% of the sub-fund's net assets. The minimum sub-fund's investment in equity securities will be of 75% of the sub-fund's net assets.

The sub-fund may invest for maximum 10% of its net assets in funds that have been selected in accordance with a number of qualitative and quantitative criteria. The qualitative analysis assesses the stability and strength of the investment manager, as well as its investment process and philosophy. The quantitative selection process aims to select only funds with proven risk-adjusted performance.

Investments in debt securities will not exceed 15% of its net assets.

The sub-fund may invest up to 20% in bank deposits at sight, including cash held in current accounts with a bank accessible at any time.

Sustainable policy

The sub-fund contributes to environmental and social objectives and qualifies as an investment product in accordance with article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability related disclosures in the financial services sector. The sustainable objective of the sub-fund is to generate competitive investment returns by investing in sustainable businesses helping to deliver a cleaner, healthier and safer world. In addition, the External Investment Manager's will use its long-term ownership and relationship with management to improve the way businesses manage their interaction with the environment and society.

The sub-fund promotes environmental and social characteristics and qualifies as an investment product in accordance with article 9(1)(g) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability related disclosures in the financial services sector.

The sub-fund will comply with ABN AMRO Investment Solutions' exclusion list defined in Book I as well as with the External Investment Manager ethical screens. The combination of both exclusions sets remove, on an "absence of harm" basis areas of the market that cause social or environmental damages (e.g. tobacco, alcohol, weapons, gambling). In addition, the External Investment Manager applies its own norms based and economic activities based screening. Investment ideas are screened against various areas of ESG risks and adverse indicators (e.g. business ethics, human rights, environment & climate change). As part of this screening process, the sub-fund will strive not to be exposed to areas such as car manufacturers, airlines, cement producers, steel manufacturers or oil and gas Exploration & Production, where the External Investment Manager believes they do not meet with the climate change indicators.

The investment process relies on stock picking based on fundamental analysis of companies combining both financial and ESG considerations. The sub-fund will seek to invest in companies lacking issues related to identified sustainable themes such as education, health & wellbeing, social infrastructure and sustainable solutions.

The Health & Wellbeing theme contributes across the health spectrum including, sport, diet, nutrition, diagnosis, prevention and cure. The Social Infrastructure theme contributes to the socially built environment in companies such as hospitals, schools, clinics etc.) The Sustainable Solutions theme contributes to both environmental and social objective by supporting investments in renewable energy, water, sustainable agriculture, green buildings and green finance.

The sub-fund ESG approaches consisted of Research, then leads on to Screening, Engagement and Governance.

The sub-fund seeks to invest in companies whose products, services, or practices help provide solutions to climate change and renew the earth; as well as companies that help advance for all equality with social mobility, respect for human rights and wellbeing.

The sub-fund applies a default 'Ethics/Values' screen in which companies in the business areas listed below are excluded where turnover or profit (whichever is higher) exceeds 10%. Investments that are also screened against six areas of ESG risk (also referred to as 'Responsibility (ESG)') in addition, the sub-fund excludes companies on the ABN-Amro banned list. The RI team analyses companies according to the own proprietary model of the External Investment Manager. Their recommendation is final: if a stock fails the in-house screening process, we will not invest.

The sub-fund integrates ESG risk factors across its investment process in order to deliver superior returns. This ESG integration covers four key areas: Research, screenings, engagement and Governance.

The screening allows to identify companies are responsible corporate citizens. The ESG screens in addition to the internal and collaborative engagement practices ensure that the companies invested are good corporate citizens. Additionally, the sub-fund seeks to invest in companies that exhibit best practice in the area of corporate governance

To be considered suitable for inclusion, an investment idea must meet the criteria laid out by the screening model. There are three parts to this: ethics/values; responsibility/ ESG and sustainability/ thematic. Investment ideas are also screened against six areas of ESG risk (also referred to as 'Responsibility (ESG)'). Companies that derive more than 10% of their profits or turnover from these activities are excluded from the universe of investible stocks.

In addition to the norms based and activity exclusions in place, the sub-fund monitors a robust screening process which looks at a range of issues including sustainable features. In that respect, the sub-fund do not have exposure to sectors such as car manufacturers, airlines, cement producers, steel manufacturers or oil and gas E&P where there is no serious plan and commitment to address the impact on climate change, and these are typically not requested to be screened given the External Investment Manager understands this well.

The sub-fund investment process includes binding and material SRI approach to focus on companies either leading in ESG best-practice or attractive due to their progression in ESG.

The sub-fund will seek to invest in companies benefiting from one of the four sustainable themes described or have evidence of having committed to, or approved a science based emissions reduction target.

The ESG analysis covered 100% of the portfolio. After reviewing the investment universe, at least 20% of companies are excluded based on SRI Criteria.

The ESG analysis covered 100% of the portfolio. After reviewing the investment universe, 20% of companies are excluded based on SRI Criteria (ethical screens). All companies in the portfolio go through the in-house RI screening process prior to investment and all stocks are monitored once held in the portfolio.

As part of the Management Company's Sustainable Investment Policy, the sub-fund complies with the exclusion rules of article 8 investment product. ESG coverage depends of reported information's from companies and constrained by companies disclosures. An unavailable information's would impact the ability to do proper ESG research.

The derivative instruments are not covered by the ESG analysis."

The aforementioned sustainable transition of the Sub-Fund involves, notably, an increased number of binding sustainable criteria to be taken into consideration in its management and subsequent selections of issuers (e.g. ESG score, carbon footprint, alignment with the United Nations "Sustainable Development Goals"...). Therefore, as from 15 September 2022, the shareholders of the Sub-Fund who do not approve of the above changes will have the possibility to redeem or convert their shares free of charge until 15 October 2022 (Luxembourg time).

The updated Prospectus and related key investor information documents will be available free of charge at the registered office of the Company, Luxembourg, 15 September 2022

The Board of Directors of the Company

The perfect gift for new parents



PIPPA SUZANNE DRACOTT WAS BORN ON MAY 28, 2020, AT BROOMFIELD HOSPITAL IN CHELMSFORD, ESSEX, TO CLAIRE, 30, AND GARY DRACOTT, 30

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THE TIMES

Law

Adjusting to the King's Counsel era

The accession of King Charles III heralds changes for the legal profession. **Catherine Baksi** reports

The death last week of the monarch — in whose name justice is done and laws are passed — has already triggered changes for the legal profession.

Prosecutions went from being brought in the name of the Queen, Regina, to the King, Rex, and the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court became the King's Bench. However, the Queen's Building at the Royal Courts of Justice in London, opened by Queen Elizabeth II, will keep its name.

The first judgment promulgated in the name of the King is understood to have been in the case of *Saverio Zirilli v The King* in the Court of Appeal in Victoria, in Australia.

For nearly 2,000 Queen's Counsel in England and Wales, it meant an immediate change in suffix, to King's Counsel. The last surviving KC appointed by King George VI, according to the archivist at Inner Temple, was the law lord Baron Simon of Glaisdale, who died in 2006. He joined the Inns of Court regiment in the Second World War, returning to legal practice in 1946 and was appointed King's Counsel in 1951.

As government law officers are given the rank, Edward Timpson, who was appointed solicitor-general in July before being sacked two months later, was the last person to become a QC. When he is sworn in, his successor, Michael Tomlinson, will be the first new KC since the reign of George VI.

Within half an hour of the announcement of the Queen's death, the chairman of the Bar Council — the body that represents barristers in England and

Wales — published a tribute that was signed off with his altered suffix: Mark Fenhalls KC.

On Twitter some silks exercised similar efficiency in altering their names, which, said John Machell KC, was "a mundane and unimportant task in itself, but poignant and affecting".

Others suggested that he had displayed unseemly haste in affecting the change. Henry Grunwald KC tweeted that his Twitter account "will remain @HCGQC out of deep respect for the Queen".

Simon Spence KC tells *The Times* that the sudden change from QC had "a surprisingly profound emotional and psychological impact". However, he suggests there is nothing disrespectful about making the change, which reflects the unbroken line of succession.

Spence points out that with a king and two male heirs in the Prince of Wales and Prince George of Wales, it is highly unlikely that silks will be required to change their letters for generations to come.

Matthew Ryder KC tweeted to ask: "Can't we just be 'Senior Counsel'?" After 70 years, Chris Daw KC agrees that now is the time for a debate about introducing a degree of modernisation, and adoption of Senior Counsel, as has happened in Ireland, Australia and some other Commonwealth countries.

Daw insists that he "doesn't want a new French revolution", but suggests that an appointment system that is entirely separated from the monarchy is more appropriate in the modern age.



King Charles, with the Queen Consort, at the Palace of Westminster this week addressing both Houses of Parliament

Barristers' chambers have been swift to alter websites, but entrance signs may take longer and could be expensive for bigger sets. *The Times* understands that the wooden name boards favoured by some cost about £100 per slat.

The four Inns of Court have opened books of condolence and fly Union Flags at half-mast. Along with the chairman of the Bar Council and presi-

'The change from QC had a surprisingly profound emotional impact'

dent of the Law Society, their representatives have written messages of condolence to the royal family.

The Criminal Bar Association has organised for barristers to gather at the Old Bailey at 4pm today and walk, wearing robes and mourning attire, to Gray's Inn chapel to lay a wreath.

In other acts of modern mourning, the Bar Council and judiciary have

temporarily changed their Twitter logos to black background.

Courts have remained open, observing a two-minute silence on the day that followed the Queen's death. They will be closed on the day of the state funeral, except for urgent hearings, with cases listed either side of the service where possible.

Strike action by criminal barristers in dispute with the government over legal aid rates continues, but planned gatherings outside courts have been cancelled. And an initial meeting between Kirsty Brimelow KC, the chairwoman of the Criminal Bar Association, and the newly appointed justice secretary and lord chancellor, Brandon Lewis, has been postponed to September 20.

During her 70-year reign the Queen had 21 lord chancellors. The first was Baron Simonds and the last was Lewis.

Historically, during periods of national mourning barristers were required to wear mourning bands — normal bands folded over to make pleats and appear darker. Silks and judges also

wore "weepers", detachable long cuffs for dabbing away tears.

The late Sir Henry Brooke, a retired Court of Appeal judge, wrote in 2017 that the practice was last seen in 1991 following the death of King Olav V of Norway, the last surviving grandchild of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra.

Guidance sent to judges from the lord chief justice, Lord Burnett of Maldon, states that court mourning dress is not required. Yet the brisk trade in mourning garb reported by legal outfitter Ede & Ravenscroft and Ivy & Normanton, an online seller of women's legal attire, suggests there is a strong appetite to continue the tradition.

Anand Beharrylal KC says that the "proper way" for barristers and judges to honour the late Queen is to follow the tradition of wearing court mourning dress and "pay tribute to her in a manner unique to the legal profession".

He says: "The close of this second Elizabethan era should be marked in more than just words."

The monarch's oaths need reform for a modern Britain

Vernon Bogdanor
Comment

The Queen is dead. Long live the King. Yet the monarchy survives only by adapting to the modern world.

Many statutory rules governing the monarchy were drafted in the 17th century, a time of constitutional and religious upheaval, ending when James II was deposed in 1688. Britain was then defined as an Anglican and Protestant nation. Catholics were seen as disloyal, while atheists, agnostics and non-Christians were regarded as beyond the pale. All this is anachronistic in our multi-denominational, pluralistic society.

The King is required to take three statutory oaths. Even though these oaths declare the law rather than

create it, they are hardly appropriate in the Britain of today.

The first oath, promising to preserve the Presbyterian-established Church of Scotland, to which apparently just 6 per cent of Scots belong, was taken at the Accession Council on Saturday. This oath derives from the 25th article of the 1707 Treaty of Union, declaring that statutes contrary to it are void. But it is doubtful whether a court would disavow such a statute.

The 1801 Act of Union with Ireland provided that the Irish church remain established "for ever". But Gladstone disestablished it in the Irish Church Act 1869, and the courts accepted that move in the case of *Canon Selwyn*, who challenged that act's validity in 1872.

Were parliament to pass legislation that disestablished the Scottish church, with the consent of

the Scottish parliament, the King would be bound to assent to it. So he has no power to enforce his oath.

Secondly, either at the first state opening of parliament or at his coronation, the king is required by the Bill of Rights Act 1688, modified by the Accession Declaration Act 1910, to declare that he is a "faithful Protestant" and will "secure the Protestant succession".

Thirdly, the Coronation Oath Act of 1688 requires the King to declare that he will maintain the Anglican Protestant Church, established in England, though not in any other part of the UK, nor in any of the other realms of which the King is head of state. This act surely needs amendment.

Reform depends on the religious and political authorities, who would need the agreement of opposition parties and the other realms.

The coronation is an Anglican religious ceremony as well as a constitutional one in which the King is acknowledged as the rightful sovereign. The King may wish to add a further ceremony in which he would reaffirm his commitment to those of all faiths and of none. But in addition it may be that the two elements of the coronation — the religious and the constitutional — could be separated.

It seems odd in these multifaceted days that the sovereign is anointed only after agreeing to secure the interests of the Church of England. The homage could well be separated from the religious elements of the ceremony, since, unlike the oaths, it is not prescribed in legislation.

Even in 1953, when Britain was — nominally, at least — a strongly Anglican nation, the coronation service appeared anachronistic. The

diary of Geoffrey Fisher, then the Archbishop of Canterbury, in part reproduced in his official biography, shows that the Duke of Edinburgh had asked, unavailingly, "how some features relevant to the world today could be introduced".

Survey evidence shows that while the monarchy retains its popularity, there is some scepticism among the young. Reform would ensure that the coronation genuinely symbolises the pluralism of modern Britain.

Vernon Bogdanor is a professor of government at King's College, London

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Firms accused of greenwashing

Jonathan Ames

"Law is central to driving a just transition to a sustainable future," said Mishcon de Reya, one of London's most esteemed practices, this week as it announced a seminar on all things green.

Mishcon, which represented Diana in her 1996 divorce from her husband, now King Charles III, is not alone among English and US law firms in touting supposed green credentials.

However, a group of 150 prominent lawyers — including 17 King's Counsel — have signed an open letter that calls on commercial law specialists to do more to fight climate change.

It also accuses many of the world's biggest law firms, including four of London's elite "magic circle", of "greenwashing" — talking a good game about environmental sustainability while representing the world's biggest polluters and fossil fuel companies.

The letter refers to the maximum increase in global temperature relative to pre-industrial levels as agreed by the UN Paris agreement on climate change, saying: "Lawyers who support transactions inconsistent with the 1.5C limit expose themselves and their clients to substantial legal risk, as well as the real-world risk of catastrophe."

The group — which includes lawyers from Landmark Chambers, who acted for the government in legal challenges to proposals to expand Heathrow airport in London — adds: "Lawyers must use their influence for good, supporting their clients in making the urgent transformation to business practices that is required to avert disaster."

The letter goes on to point out that a report published last year by the US group Law Students for Climate Accountability included a scorecard in which large US and UK firms were rated in terms of their greenness. Four of the five magic circle firms — Allen & Overy, Clifford Chance, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Linklaters — received F grades, the lowest. Two other top-ten City law firms — Hogan Lovells and Norton Rose Fulbright — were also given Fs.

"City law firms seem to believe they can follow the government's lead — warm words on climate action while continuing to profiteer from the carbon economy," says Tim Crosland, the barrister and director of the campaign group Plan B, which organised the signatories to the letter.



Allen & Overy advised on a huge energy infrastructure deal with Aramco, a Saudi Arabian petroleum and gas company

He adds that the fact that the letter has been signed by so many KCs "comes at a critical constitutional moment. We know that King Charles III is alive to the extreme dangers of climate breakdown. Will he sign off on legislation that expands the carbon economy even while knowing it's a death warrant for so many and would threaten the survival of the state and the Commonwealth? Or will he have the courage to take a stand?"

That City law firms have been keen to jump on the sustainability bandwagon is beyond doubt. Allen & Overy says its "vision" is to "contribute to improving the environmental sustainability of the legal sector by implementing best practice in operational management".

Freshfields recognises the business perils of climate change, highlighting "the rising threat of litigation as corporates are targeted by claimants demanding compensation for historic emissions and greater transparency on climate-related risk".

And in November Nadia Kalic, a partner at Clifford Chance's office in Sydney, Australia, set out the firm's "route to net zero". It included commissioning consultants "to monitor both our own and our suppliers' sustainabil-

ity performance against a globally recognised methodology" that conformed with the UN, the International Labour Organization and a range of other great and good international organisations.

On the other hand City firms are equally keen to promote their connections to the oil and gas industry. Allen & Overy touts its "market-leading oil and gas practice" that advises national and international oil companies "on all aspects of the oil and gas supply chain".

More specifically, the firm recently advised Hassana Investment Company in what it trumpeted as "one of the world's largest energy infrastructure deals", which involved the Saudi Arabian company Aramco striking a \$15.5 billion deal for a gas pipeline network.

Two years ago Freshfields advised on a gas deal involving Russia's state-owned Gazprom and China's National Petroleum Corporation. The firm proudly notes that the deal was crucial in its team winning a significant award.

The open letter highlights three proposals. It starts with "self-education", saying that "all lawyers must ensure they acquire and maintain understanding of the extreme risks of breaching the 1.5C limit; and the urgent action required by 2030 to prevent such breach".

Next the signatories call for lawyers to be "ethically obliged to advise their clients... of the serious risks — legal and otherwise — of pursuing any investment, project or transaction that is inconsistent with the pathway to 1.5C".

And, third, they call on lawyers to support efforts by the judiciary "to develop climate literacy, and in appropriate cases, ensure courts have access to relevant evidence concerning the climate emergency and have due regard to the compatibility of any investment, project or transaction with the 1.5C threshold".

Whether City law firms will pay any attention to the open letter is debatable. None of the City firms that were graded F in last year's report would comment.

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OUT OF COURT

The cases, the chatter, the chaos: what's really going on in the law

Inn recycles court attire

As aspiring barristers begin a new term, Inner Temple is inviting lawyers to donate good-quality, dry-cleaned business and court dress as well as dinner jackets to help those in need.

The Inn will hold a clothing fair on September 27 and 30, and asks that donations are dropped at the Inn's education and training reception on the third floor of the Treasury Building by September 22. Donors are asked to include a note in the pocket if they are giving an item with a story that students might find inspiring.

Adjust to a new anthem

To Temple Church, where parishioners were keen to be among the first to show their allegiance to Charles III by belting out a rendition of the altered national anthem at the end of a service last week. And our spies relate that it was a game effort, if in the end a slightly faltering "God save the Quing" was the result.

Cathartic walk home

Michael Mansfield KC, the renowned criminal law and civil liberties specialist, has been reminiscing about some of his landmark cases in a podcast for Vival, a vegan campaign group.

He recalls his anger after his client, Barry George, was wrongly convicted of the murder of the television presenter Jill Dando, "I thought the only way I have of dissipating the contained anger is something physical. So I walked home, pounding the streets all the way... every pace I was going back over and over [the case]. I have to have a facility to absorb and accommodate a case that's gone so badly wrong."

Court of Appeal judges quashed George's conviction in 2007. He was acquitted after a retrial in 2008.

Three Daves on a bench

The new appointments to the Supreme Court have resulted in there being three men called David and only one woman among the 12 justices, as *The Times* wrote last week.

Defending the process, a former president, also named David, Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury, said the lack of diversity was "regrettable and unfortunate". And in noting the more rarefied atmosphere of the Supreme Court compared with the Court of Appeal, he said that making the change is like "moving from a school to a monastery", adding that he hopes it will become more like a nunnery.

■ **Subscribers can register for the Brief e-newsletter, which this week unveils a rabble-rousing protest song for striking barristers and an appeal for barrister choristers.**

Lawyer of the week Penny Simpson

Penny Simpson, a partner and the head of environmental law at Freeths, led the judicial review for the campaigners Tim and Angelika Harris, who argued that the Environment Agency had failed to protect rare wetland species and habitats of international importance in the Norfolk Broads from the impact of water abstraction. The High Court ruled in the couple's favour that despite Brexit, European laws on nature conservation remain enforceable against UK agencies.

What were the biggest hurdles you had to overcome in this case? Trying to determine via endless Freedom of Information Act requests what the agency knew about the risk of damage from water abstraction to

sensitive environmental areas. The technical aspects of its work is underpinned by complex scientific methodology.

What is the best decision you have taken as a lawyer? Leaving a well-known City law firm to work in-house as a campaigns lawyer for an environmental charity. This was the springboard to develop the legal practice I am so passionate about today.

Who do you most admire in the law? As a student I worked with Philippe

Sands KC as an intern. He showed how you can use the law to bring about environmental and social change, which he has done his whole career.



What is the best advice you have received? Follow your heart when making career decisions. Don't be afraid to do something that bucks the trend.

What is the funniest thing that has happened in your job? Getting on what I thought was the Eurostar to Brussels from London for an important meeting. I realised I was

on an empty train heading to a north London rail depot, where I had to wait four hours before being rescued.

What are the best and worst aspects of being a lawyer? The best is being able to make a difference for clients; the worst is the gruelling hours.

What law would you enact? Only one car per household. This would have a positive impact on the environment, but it would have to be combined with a commitment to improve public transport.

What is your favourite cocktail? Always a mojito.

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★Amazon River★

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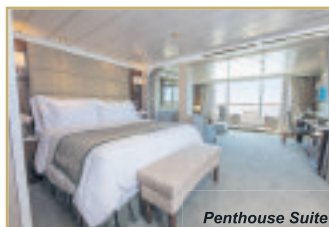
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Today Scattered showers in the north and east, elsewhere dry with sunny spells. Max 19C (66F), min 2C (36F)

Around Britain

Key: b=brilliant, c=cloud, d=drizzle, pc=partly cloudy, du=dull, f=fair, fg=fog, h=hail, m=mist, r=rain, sh=showers, sl=sleet, sn=snow, ss=sun, t=thunder
**previous day **=data not available

	Temp C	Rain mm	Sun hr*
	midday yesterday	24 hrs to 5pm yesterday	
Aberdeen	15	C	0.0 8.0
Aberporth	15	DU	0.0 1.1
Anglesey	15	C	0.2 1.2
Aviemore	14	C	0.0 4.6
Barnstaple	20	PC	6.8 **
Belfast	18	PC	0.0 **
Birmingham	17	PC	0.0 **
Bournemouth	17	D	11.2 0.0
Bridlington	16	C	0.0 **
Bristol	17	S	2.0 0.0
Cambridge	17	B	8.2 0.0
Cardiff	19	S	5.0 0.0
Edinburgh	15	M	0.0 4.6
Eskdalemuir	15	PC	0.0 11.4
Glasgow	16	S	0.0 1.0
Hereford	16	D	0.0 **
Herstmonceux	16	C	19.8 0.0
Ipswich	19	PC	0.0 2.7
Isle of Man	15	D	0.0 10.1
Isle of Wight	17	R	22.4 **
Jersey	20	M	0.0 0.2
Kewick	18	B	0.0 **
Kinloss	14	C	0.8 5.6
Leeds	12	C	0.0 **
Lerwick	12	C	1.6 1.6
Leuchars	16	C	0.0 1.9
Lincoln	16	PC	0.0 8.4
Liverpool	16	C	0.0 **
London	19	C	5.2 0.0
Lynham	15	C	3.0 0.0
Manchester	**	**	**
Margate	**	**	0.2 **
Milford Haven	17	PC	0.0 **
Newcastle	15	PC	0.0 **
Nottingham	17	C	0.0 0.1
Orkney	11	R	1.0 1.8
Plymouth	20	C	7.0 **
Portland	17	C	3.6 **
Scilly, St Mary's	17	PC	11.2 **
Shoreham	17	C	13.6 0.0
Shrewsbury	15	C	0.0 2.2
Snowdonia	17	S	0.2 **
Southend	19	C	5.4 0.3
South Uist	14	C	0.4 **
Stornoway	**	**	0.2 0.2
Tiree	14	B	1.0 0.7
Whitehaven	14	PC	0.0 8.0
Wick	12	C	1.2 **
Yeovilton	16	C	2.6 0.0

The world

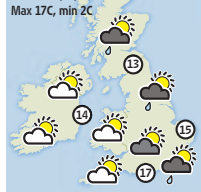
All readings local midnight yesterday			
Alicante	30	PC	28
Amsterdam	19	PC	22
Athens	27	PC	28
Auckland	**	**	30
Bahrain	37	S	29
Bangkok	31	B	15
Barbados	31	PC	23
Barcelona	26	PC	28
Beijing	29	S	25
Beirut	30	PC	29
Belgrade	29	S	20
Berlin	18	PC	12
Bermuda	29	PC	20
Bordeaux	28	S	26
Brussels	15	D	21
Bucharest	23	S	27
Budapest	21	S	29
Buenos Aires	19	PC	29
Cairo	30	S	25
Calcutta	28	S	31
Canberra	13	PC	13
Cape Town	27	S	26
Chicago	24	B	18
Copenhagen	18	B	17
Corfu	29	PC	9
Delhi	32	S	16
Dubai	41	S	26
Dublin	14	S	42
Faro	23	B	28
Florence	28	PC	21
Frankfurt	20	DU	14
Geneva	25	PC	22
Gibraltar	27	PC	27
Helsinki	12	B	28
Hong Kong	34	S	26
Honolulu	**	**	13
Istanbul	24	PC	10
Jerusalem	30	PC	17
Johannesburg	18	PC	30
Kuala Lumpur	32	PC	27
Kyiv	**	**	29
Lanzarote	25	PC	19
Las Palmas	27	B	27
Lima	14	DU	20
Lisbon	22	B	19
Los Angeles	26	PC	26
Luxor	**	**	23

Five days ahead

Largely dry with sunny spells and the risk of showers across northern and eastern areas

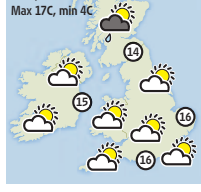
Tomorrow

Sunny intervals with the chance of showers in northern Scotland and eastern England. Elsewhere mostly dry with sunny spells.
Max 17C, min 2C



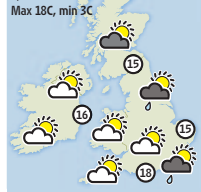
Saturday

Cloudy with scattered showers across northern Scotland although there will be a few isolated showers across the Norfolk coast. Elsewhere dry with sunny intervals.
Max 17C, min 4C



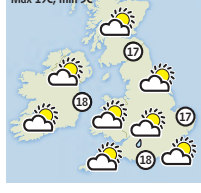
Sunday

Largely cloudy with scattered showers in eastern areas. Western and central areas will be mostly dry with sunny spells.
Max 18C, min 3C



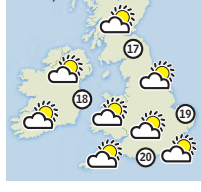
Monday

Mainly dry with sunny spells for much of the British Isles. Sunny intervals with the risk of isolated showers in eastern and central England.
Max 19C, min 5C



Tuesday

A dry day with sunny intervals for most areas. A chance of the odd isolated shower for western Ireland and northern Scotland.
Max 21C, min 5C



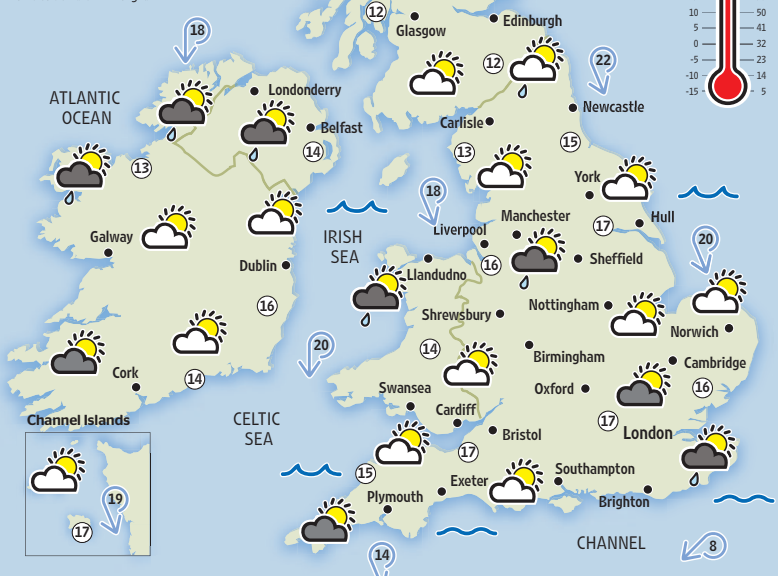
The Times weather page is provided by Weatherquest

Wind speed
34 (mph)
28 (degrees C)

Sea state
Calm
Slight
Moderate
Rough

Flood alerts and warnings

At 17:00 on Wednesday there were three flood alerts and no warnings in England, but no flood alerts or warnings in Wales or Scotland. For further information and updates in England visit flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk, for Wales naturalresources.wales/flooding and for Scotland SEPA.org.uk



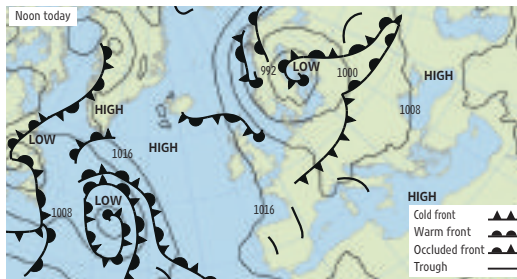
General situation: Mainly dry with sunny spells and scattered showers in northern Scotland and eastern England. **Wales, W Midlands, SW Eng, Channel Is:** Dry with sunny spells and the chance of the odd isolated shower in north Wales. Light to moderate north to northwesterly wind. Maximum 18C (64F), minimum 6C (43F). **E Midlands, E Anglia, C S Eng, London, SE Eng:** Mainly cloudy with sunny intervals and scattered showers, clearing through the evening. Light

to moderate northwesterly wind. Maximum 19C (66F), minimum 7C (45F). **Argyll, Glasgow, Moray Firth, N Isles, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, C Highland, N Scotland:** Sunny periods with a spell of showery rain moving southwards. Moderate northwesterly wind. Maximum 15C (59F), minimum 2C (36F). **N Ireland, Republic of Ireland:** Mainly dry with sunny spells in the morning. The afternoon will be largely dry

although there is a small risk of an isolated shower in the north. Light to moderate northwesterly wind. Maximum 17C (63F), minimum 4C (39F). **Borders, SW Scotland, Lake District, IoM, NW Eng, C N Eng, E Eng, NE Eng:** Dry and sunny with patchy cloud developing into the evening and the risk an isolated shower. Light to moderate northwesterly wind. Maximum 17C (63F), minimum 3C (37F).

Tides

Tidal predictions, Heights in metres			
Today		HT	HT
Aberdeen	05:01	4.2	17:33 3.9
Avonmouth	11:03	12.4	23:17 12.2
Belfast	02:56	3.5	15:22 3.3
Cardiff	10:48	11.5	23:05 11.3
Devonport	09:35	5.2	21:43 5.1
Dover	02:50	6.5	15:06 6.6
Dublin	03:00	4.0	15:32 3.7
Falmouth	09:04	5.0	21:17 4.9
Greenock	04:13	3.6	16:28 3.3
Harwich	03:32	3.9	15:38 4.0
Holyhead	01:56	5.5	14:17 5.1
Hull	10:02	7.6	22:20 6.8
Leith	06:26	5.4	18:53 5.0
Liverpool	02:42	9.1	15:00 8.6
London Bridge	05:44	6.9	17:55 7.0
Lowestoft	01:15	2.4	13:18 2.6
Milford Haven	10:02	6.5	22:21 6.4
Morcambe	02:53	9.2	15:11 8.6
Newhaven	02:47	6.5	15:03 6.5
Newquay	08:55	6.5	21:14 6.4
Oban	09:11	3.6	21:38 3.6
Penzance	08:26	5.2	20:44 5.1
Portsmouth	03:11	4.5	15:43 4.6
Shoreham	03:00	6.0	15:18 6.0
Southampton	02:36	4.3	17:19 4.3
Swansea	10:09	8.9	22:27 8.7
Tees	07:26	5.5	19:57 5.1
Weymouth	10:28	1.9	22:45 1.9



Synoptic situation

An occluded front associated with an area of low pressure over Scandinavia will push into eastern Scotland bringing scattered showers and thick cloud. An area of high pressure is riding into the west of Ireland bringing largely dry conditions with sunny spells, although there is the risk of the odd isolated shower.

Highs and lows

24hrs to 5pm yesterday
Warmest: Charsfield, Suffolk, 22.8C
Coldest: Eskdalemuir, 2.3C
Wettest: Thorney Island, West Sussex, 22.4mm
Sunniest: Morecambe, 12.0hrs

Sun and moon

For Greenwich
Sun rises: 06:35
Sun sets: 19:15
Moon rises: 21:13
Moon sets: 13:57 Fri
Third Quarter: September 17th

Hours of darkness

Aberdeen	19:58-06:28
Belfast	20:11-06:22
Birmingham	19:53-06:13
Cardiff	19:58-06:19
Exeter	19:58-06:21
Glasgow	20:05-06:20
Liverpool	19:58-06:17
London	19:45-06:07
Manchester	19:55-06:14
Newcastle	19:54-06:10
Norwich	19:40-06:00
Penzance	20:06-06:29
Sheffield	19:52-06:11

Weather Eye
Paul Simons



It's come as a bit of a shock to be facing downpours of rain after the long summer drought, but at least it's been a great tonic for parched lawns that have been resurrected from sickly yellow to lush green again.

We are now halfway through September and it's a strange feeling looking at the national rainfall statistics and seeing figures much closer to usual averages. In some places it's been extremely wet thanks to some mighty big downpours, with Heathrow standing out as a particularly sodden location, with it almost 50 per cent above its entire month's average rainfall.

On the other hand, anyone looking for an escape from the soaking wet could have tried parts of the Highlands and Islands — Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis had only a fifth of its usual rainfall.

Now comes another surprise, as conditions gradually turn a touch cooler. So far this month has been surprisingly mild and some places have been basking in warmth, thanks in no small part to some very mild nights. Eastern England has enjoyed some of the best temperatures, and Wattisham in Suffolk reached 4C above its September average. This mild spell also embraced much of the UK, with temperatures in Scotland reaching 3C above the norm in parts of the northeast and on the west coast.

Why is it now turning chilly? A high-pressure system is moving in from the west and sweeping air down from the far north, making it feel especially cool at night where there are clear skies, and even cold enough for a touch of frost in parts of Scotland. By tomorrow the winds will pick up, making it feel even chillier, especially along the east coast. Across the UK temperatures below 20C will be widespread, something we haven't seen on the weather maps for many months.

As the high pressure envelops the UK this weekend, conditions turn calmer and drier. But this is autumn and so the cool nights also bring the risk of rural frosts, patchy mist and fog. Next week temperatures should start to climb closer to the average.

Speak directly to one of our forecasters on 09065 77 76 75

8am to 6pm daily (calls charged at £1.50 per minute plus network extras)



For more information on the services we can provide, visit our website: www.weatherquest.co.uk

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Sport

Evans admits he could lose spot to Murray after opening defeat

Dan Evans (GB)	4	6	4
Tommy Paul (US)	6	4	6

Davis Cup

Stuart Fraser Tennis Correspondent

Dan Evans admitted that he may find himself replaced by Andy Murray in the Great Britain Davis Cup team singles selections this week after losing the opening match of this year's campaign in Glasgow yesterday.

The British No 2, ranked No 25 in the world, could not get the better of Tommy Paul, the world No 29 from the United States, losing a gruelling encounter 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 in two hours and 32 minutes at the Emirates Arena.

Cameron Norrie kept Britain in the first round-robin tie of the group stage by defeating Taylor Fritz, the world No 12, 2-6, 7-6 (7-2), 7-5 in the second singles match. It gave Murray and Joe Salisbury the chance to secure victory for the hosts in the deciding doubles against Rajeev Ram and Jack Sock, which was being contested last night.

Evans, 32, has always been committed to the Davis Cup cause, yet he has not often performed at his best in the team competition billed as "the World Cup of tennis". He has an overall win-loss record of 10-19 and has won only two of his nine matches against top-60 opponents. The Great Britain captain, Leon Smith, will now consider whether to field Murray, a three-times grand-slam champion and former world No 1, instead for the first singles match against the Netherlands tomorrow.

"I think now there will be a discussion," Evans said. "Obviously there's more permutations after you see what happens on the first day."

Evans was twice a break up in the early stages but could not take advantage and was warned for an audible obscenity by the umpire after losing the opening set. He refocused in the second and levelled the match by using his deft backhand slice to great effect.

The long rallies in the deciding set



Evans said he did not take his chances against Paul, while Norrie, inset, also toiled but earned Britain's first win against the US

captivated the crowd of 5,000 but there were groans when Evans played a poor game on serve at 4-3 down. Paul failed to serve out the match at 5-3 but broke the Evans serve again for the win.

The slow conditions were not ideal for Evans's net-rushing game. It is understood that the British team were taken aback by the slow pace of both the indoor hard court and balls when they first arrived for practice last weekend. Under the old format, the hosts were entitled to play in their preferred conditions, but the new format means that competition organisers attempt to set a similar pace of play across all four venues for the group stage (Glasgow,

Bologna, Hamburg and Valencia). "It is what it is," Evans said. "It's a hard, physical court to play on. But it was nothing to do with the court as to why I didn't win the match. I had my chances and came up short."

Norrie, 27, showed the Scottish crowd what he is renowned for on the ATP tour. In a week when he sits at a career-high world ranking of No 8, he battled back from a set down in front of his Glasgow-born father, David, who made the long trip from New Zealand to watch in person.

"I wasn't really playing my best," Norrie said. "Taylor came out firing but I managed to get to a second set tie-

break. I played well in the tie-break and then the third set as well."

The atmosphere was more sombre than usual after the death of the Queen. A minute's silence was held before the tie and no music was played during the change of ends. "We're very lucky to be playing," Evans said. "Thankfully the event was allowed to go on."

DID BRITAIN FIGHT BACK?

Go online now to see if the home team recovered after Evans's defeat in Glasgow
[thetimes.co.uk/#section-sport](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/#section-sport)

LIV threat fired me up, says McIlroy

Golf

Rory McIlroy has admitted that the "grim" prospect of a LIV Golf player winning the BMW PGA Championship gave him extra motivation.

Patrick Reed, who held the clubhouse lead for two hours on Sunday, and Talor Gooch—both LIV players—finished in the top five, with only Jon Rahm, McIlroy and the eventual winner Shane Lowry ahead of them.

"The leaderboard at Wentworth last week at about 2pm on Sunday was looking pretty grim if you were in a position that I hold," said McIlroy, who had described the presence of 18 players from the Saudi-funded break-away as "hard to stomach". "That probably gave me some extra motivation [as it did for] a few other guys."

McIlroy, 33, has emerged as one of the most vocal supporters of the PGA Tour and DP World Tour as they try to combat the threat of LIV Golf.

"It's a weird time in golf and hopefully over the next couple of years we can resolve it in some way," the Northern Irishman said, "but right now I'm a golfer. I maybe put myself in a conversation too much at times. But I can't help myself because I feel strongly about it."

McIlroy was speaking at Marco Simone Golf and Country Club near Rome, the scene of this week's Italian Open and the Ryder Cup next year, when Europe will be captained by Luke Donald after Henrik Stenson was stripped of the job for joining LIV.

"I've had discussions with Luke and actually a few of us are meeting for dinner tonight [yesterday] for a little bit of team bonding," McIlroy said. "But also [to] have a talk about the course and how we think it should be set up to favour the European team."

The world No 2 does not think that LIV players should be on the Ryder Cup team but Matt Fitzpatrick, the US Open champion from England, does not agree. "I just want to win the Ryder Cup," Fitzpatrick said. "I want the 11 best guys. I'm not too bothered where they are going to come from."

TUNE IN TO LIVE FOOTBALL COMMENTARIES



DAB **1089/1053 AM**
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SHERIFF TIRASPOL v MAN UTD
TONIGHT 17:30 (17:45 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

ASTON VILLA v SOUTHAMPTON
TOMORROW FROM 19:00 (20:00 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

NOTTINGHAM FOREST v FULHAM
TOMORROW FROM 19:00 (20:00 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

SWANSEA v HULL CITY
SATURDAY FROM 12:00 (12:30 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

WOLVES v MAN CITY
SATURDAY FROM 11:00 (12:30 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

NEWCASTLE v BOURNEMOUTH
SATURDAY FROM 14:30 (15:00 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

BRENTFORD v ARSENAL
SUNDAY FROM 11:00 (12:00 K.O.) [talkSPORT](#)

Newcastle

5.45 Scampi	7.45 Never Just A Dream
6.15 City Runner	8.15 Strike Red
6.45 Golden Mayflower	8.45 Muker (nap)
7.15 Amanirenas	
Going: standard	Sky Sports Racing
Draw: no advantage	

5.45 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Handicap (€25,770: 1m 40) (12 runners)

1 (3) 30142 FAIR STAR 35 (P) B Ellison 4-9-12	B Robinson
2 (11) 4361 SCAMPI 42 (H,D) A Balding 4-9-9	S M Levey
3 (5) -4024 VINDOLANDA 26 (D) H Main 3-8-9	D Muscucci
4 (4) 00222 TRINITY GIRL 21 (CD) Jessica Nacey 5-4-5	O McSweeney (5)
5 (9) 23241 TRUE COURAGE 13 (V,D) M Bell 4-9-4	R Dawson
6 (11) 21103 SHAKE A LEG 54 (P,D) J Camacho 5-9-4	P Mulrennan
7 (2) 44113 POSTMARK 21 (H,T,B,F) M Harris 3-9-4	L Dettori
8 (7) 09300 BLOW YOUR HORN 54 (D) R Menzies 5-9-3	P Cosgrave
9 (6) 22321 WYNTER WILDES 21 (CD) K Fellows 3-8-11	H Turner
10 (6) 40011 SARSONS RISK 19 (D) J Williams 3-8-10	David Egan
11(10) 3301 MOSTLY SUNNY 75 (D) H Main 3-8-9	A Muilen
12(12) 22110 SOPHISTICATE 12 (D) J Goldie 3-8-2	JP Sullivan

5-1 Wynter Wildes, 12-1 Sarson's Risk, 6-1 Postmark, 13-2 True Courage, Scampi, 7-1 Trinity Girl, 10-1 Fair Star, 12-1 Vindolanda, Shake A Leg.

Rob Wright's choice: Scampi, Beat Wynter Wildes, in good style at Doncaster. **Dangers:** Wynter Wildes, Postmark

6.15 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Handicap (€25,000: 1m 2p) (14)

1 (6) 24211 TREGONY 21 (CD) C Cox 4-9-12	S Osborne (3)
2 (9) 23027 GEREMIA 21 (D) Goldie 4-9-12	JP Sullivan
3 (7) 11364 JEAN BAPTISTE 21 (P,D) R Fell 5-9-12	O McSweeney (5)
4 (1) 43302 MATCHLESS 17 (D) Furtado 4-9-11	L Edmunds
5 (5) 21114 ANDALEEP 14 (L,B,F,D) G A Kibler 6-9-9	D Muscucci
6 (4) 31021 WHITE WILLOW 17 (D) R Fahy 4-9-8	P Cosgrave
7 (3) 3-422 VANITY AFFAIR 43 (H,C,D) K Fellows 5-9-6	H Turner
8 (8) 20013 CITY RUNNER 27 (B) Meehan 3-9-6	G M Ryan
9 (10) 20311 EETEE 11 (D) O'Meara 4-9-6	Jason Watson
10(10) 22151 JEWEL MAKER 17 (CD) T Eastery 7-9-5	C Hardie
11(10) 45313 NINSE GALE 16 (D) J Jardine 4-9-4	A Muilen
12 (2) 00020 SHIMLSON 25 (D) A Balding 3-9-2	N Currie
13(11) 00342 ANGELS LANDING 14 J Williams 4-9-8	David Egan
14(13) 51341 FEARLESS BAY 13 (P,D) C Dunlop 3-8-9	R Dawson

12-1 Eetee, 6-1 Tregony, 7-1 Geremia, Fearless Bay, 15-2 White Willow, 10-1 Vanity Affair, Inse Gail, 12-1 Andaleep, Matchless.

Wright choice: City Runner did well when third in a stronger race at York. **Dangers:** White Willow, Geremia

6.45 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Handicap (€27,000: 1m) (14)

1 (10) 24821 MENAI BRIDGE 21 (CD) C Hills 4-9-12	D Muscucci
2 (7) 50500 YOUNG FIRE 21 (V,D) D O'Meara 7-9-11	Jason Watson
3 (9) 13322 GALIC 21 (C) W Muir & C Grassick 3-9-8	C Shepherd
4 (2) 4-430 RAISING SAND 27 (P,D) J Osborne 10-9-5	S Osborne (3)
5 (8) 00637 DOW TELL CLARE 12 (D) G A Kibler 5-9-7	S M Levey
6 (12) 23-246 DOUBLE DEALING 21 (D) R Fahy 4-9-5	B Robinson
7 (10) 21140 YAAZER 12 (D) J Goldie 4-9-4	JP Sullivan
8 (13) 62103 GLOBAL SPIRIT 12 (D) R Fell 7-9-3	O McSweeney (5)
9 (5) 31338 SPI AND SMILE 79 (C) G Baughy 3-8-13	H Turner
10 (6) 4-260 GOLDEN MAYFLOWER 90 (W,T) Miss A Murphy 3-8-10	R Dawson

11(11) 13130 LIGHT UP OUR STARS 35 (H,D) S Dixon 6-9-11 P Cosgrave || 12 (1) -3330 NETI AND DANDY 162 (P) M Loughane 3-8-11 | G M Ryan |
| 13 (3) 54403 BRINGITONBORES 25 (D) K Dajlesh 5-9-11 | A Muilen |
| 14 (4) 44106 STRONGOVEE 45 (D) T Eastery 6-9-8 | C Hardie |

4-1 Menai Bridge, 5-1 Galic, 11-20 Neti And Dandy, 6-1 Spi And Smile, 8-1 Double Dealing, Bringitonbores, 12-1 Global Spirit, 14-1 Young Fire.

Wright choice: Golden Mayflower has had a wide operation since beaten at Royal Ascot. **Dangers:** Galic, Bringitonbores

7.15 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Handicap (€25,770: 7p) (14)

1 (11) 131-2 STREET KID 10 (D) T Furtado 4-9-12	D Muscucci
2 (8) 46090 ELEGAN 35 (P,D) D Loughane 5-9-10	L Edmunds
3 (7) -1005 FLEWY 54 (D) D Loughane 5-9-9	G M Ryan
4 (13) 13221 OUT FROM UNDER 30 (D) H R Charlton 3-9-8	L Dettori
5 (10) 10559 SWISS ACE 62 (CD) R Carr 4-9-8	P Mulrennan
6 (1) 13360 MEO OF LIFE 30 (P,D) A Balding 4-9-8	N Currie
7 (3) 36141 FRESH HOPE 10 (CD) C Fellows 3-9-6	H Turner
8 (5) 01240 BILLY MILL 12 (D) B Millman 4-9-5	S Osborne (3)
9 (4) -6646 FLASH THE DASH 89 (CD) J Camacho 3-8-130	Costello
10 (9) -5214 CONQUEST DE VEGA 35 (B,F,D) R Varian 3-8-13	R Dawson

11(12) 04041 BUCKSHAW VILLAGE 35 (D) R Fahy 3-8-11 H Shaw || 12 (2) 42414 AMANIRENAS 55 (D) M C Grassick (inc) 3-8-7 | T Heard (3) |
| 13 (4) 41434 CLASSY AL 9 (H) Goldie 4-8-2 | JP Sullivan |
| 14(14) 51121 DESERT LAND 13 (D) K Dajlesh 4-8-2 | A Muilen |

4-1 Fresh Hope, 9-2 Out From Under, 13-1 Desert Land, Street Kid, 8-1 Conquest de Vega, 10-1 Ffon, Buckshaw Village, 12-1 Swiss Ace.

Wright choice: Amanirenas remains open to improvement after only five starts. **Dangers:** Fresh Hope, Desert Land

7.45 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Nursery (2-Y-O: €13,091: 6p) (14)

1 (12) 010 NEVER JUST A DREAM 27 (D) J Mohammed 9-4-9	N Noble
2 (6) 635 YACOVIGAL 27 2-Y-O Cole 9-8	S M Levey
3 (7) -1005 FLEWY 54 (D) H R Charlton 3-9-7	A Kirby
4 (7) 43302 MICHAEL'S BOY 14 M Appleby 9-4	L Edmunds
5 (5) 2021 COTAL PEARL 8 (D) S Mart 9-4 (6ex)	P Mulrennan
6 (9) 42610 GROOMING ANGEL 28 (D) H Palmer 9-3	JP Sullivan
7 (4) 13606 ROCK OF ENGLAND 28 (P,D) E Bethell 9-2	C Hardie
8 (1) 613 KITAB 10 (D) M Cannon 9-2	D Muscucci
9 (14) 3564 NOVAPORTIAN 21 (P) R Palmer 9-0	JP Sullivan
10 (2) 62414 EXPEDITIOUS 5 (B,F,D) Alice Haynes 8-10	R Dawson
11(11) 02113 GEMCUTTER 14 (P) B Ellison 8-10	B Robinson
12 (8) 45012 IGANA CLARE 16 (D) B Millman 8-9	David Egan
13(11) 535 LADY MILLER 13 (D) T Furtado 8-9	T Heard (3)
14(10) 00040 CUBAN ROCK 35 (P) J Goldie 8-9	Doubtful

11-2 Magical Morrie, 6-1 Cotal Pearl, Yacovigal, 13-2 Never Just A Dream, 8-1 Ignar Lamer, Michael's Boy, 1-1 Gemcutter, 12-1 Kitbab.

Wright choice: Never Just A Dream was up out of its depth in the Gimcrack at York. **Dangers:** Lady Miller, Cotal Pearl

8.15 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Handicap (€25,770: 6p) (14)

1 (5) 60044 STRIKE RED 82 (B,F,D) R Fahy 4-9-12	B Robinson
2 (14) 01221 BADRI 21 (D) R Carr 5-9-12	P Mulrennan
3 (1) 05051 TOMMY DE VITO 19 (D) C Hills 5-9-11	N Currie
4 (8) 10101 WATCHYA 55 (D) C Cox 5-9-10	S Osborne (3)
5 (12) -4934 HONEY TONK MAN 21 (C) H R Charlton 3-9-4	A Kirby
6 (10) 30405 SEVEN BROTHERS 14 (D) S Dixon 4-9-7	P Cosgrave
7 (13) 03315 STERLING KNIGHT 40 (D) C Dunlop 3-9-6	H Turner
8 (9) 21361 LIR SPECIALE 14 (D) R Varian 3-9-5	R Dawson
9 (2) 36145 MIST BLUEBIRD 39 (P,B,F,D) H Main 4-9-5	A Muilen
10 (9) 00424 BOOGIE TIME 16 (D) M Loughane 4-9-6	G M Ryan
11 (3) 04010 MUSCKLA 55 (V,D) D O'Meara 8-9	Jason Watson
12(11) 35121 TEMPEL BRUER 8 (P,T,D) M Murphy & M Keady 4-8-13	D Muscucci
13 (6) 11074 WATER OF LEITH 12 (D) J Goldie 4-8-12	JP Sullivan
14 (4) -2415 PANAMA CITY 38 T Eastery 3-8-9	C Hardie

5-1 Lir Speciale, 11-2 Badri, 13-2 Strike Red, 7-1 Honey Tonk Man, 15-2 Tommy de Vito, 10-1 Watchya, Temple Bruer, 12-1 Sterling Knight, Water of Leith.

Wright choice: Strike Red was a good fourth here last time and now drops in class. **Dangers:** Lir Speciale, Watchya

8.45 William Hill Racing League ITV4 Handicap (€25,770: 5p) (14)

1 (11) 16055 NAYELLO 45 (P,D) G Baughy 3-9-12	H Turner
2 (11) 02122 MANY A STAR 12 (B,F) P O Cole 5-9-11	D Muscucci
3 (1) 5211- THE BELL CONDUCTOR 26 (D) P Midgley 5-9-11	P Mulrennan
4 (9) -3610 NEPTUNIAN 26 (D) M Meade 3-9-8	A Kirby
5 (10) -10163 FAUSTUS 21 (CD) R Cowell 4-9-8	R Dawson
6 (8) 01065 SWAYZE 12 (D) W Muir & C Grassick 3-9-7	C Shepherd
7 (2) 00044 STONE OF DESTINY 5 (D) A Balding 7-9-6	N Currie
8 (12) 03351 SHOW ME SHOW ME 21 (CD) R Fahy 5-9-5	H Shaw
9 (14) 06-26 MUKER 12 (D) P Midgley 4-9-4	C Hardie
10 (6) 23030 BE PROUD 21 (CD) J Goldie 6-9-3	JP Sullivan
11 (3) 01632 KAPER MOSS 42 (C,D) D Loughane 3-9-2	G M Ryan
12 (2) 03010 GINGER JAM 13 (P,C,D) N Tinkler 7-9-6	A Muilen
13 (4) 00046 MARNE JAMES 26 (D) M Dixon 7-9-11	P Cosgrave
14 (7) 00062 ELANORA 7 (B,F,D) M C Grassick (inc) 6-9-5	T Heard (3)

9-2 Many A Star, 11-2 Show Me Show Me, 12-3 Faustus, 12-5 The Bell Conductor, Elanora, 10-1 Be Proud, 12-1 Kape Moss, Stone Of Destiny, Muker.

Wright choice: Muker has dropped in the weights and goes well on the all-weather. **Dangers:** Swayze, Many A Star

Ayr

Rob Wright	3.35 Misty Dancer
1.50 Hil Royal	4.10 Wotover Next
2.25 Never Dard	4.45 Shimmering Sands
3.00 Al Mubhir (nb)	5.20 Rum Going On

Going: good to soft, good in places. **Racing TV**
Draw: no advantage

1.20 Novice Stakes (2-Y-O: €7,020: 7p) (14)

1 (12) 6 ARKENSTAR 21 M Dods 9-7	B Curtis
2 (9) 04 BALIC VOYAGE 27 R Beckett 9-7	R Hornby
3 (11) BEYOND REPROACH R Burke 9-7	C Lee
4 (4) 50 CHULLZELL 27 R Ryan 9-7	K Stott
5 (13) HILLS OF GOLD M Dods 9-7	G Lee
6 (7) 5 KNIGHTS SPEAR 18 T Eastery 9-7	D Allan
7 (2) MASTER SHERIDAN M & D Eastery 9-7	Joanna Mason
8 (10) 5 TIME TRAVELLER 39 R Fahy 9-7	Osin Orr
9 (14) 7 TPO TOWIN 1 J Quinn 9-7	J Hart
10 (6) 2 TWO RIVERS 27 K Dajlesh 9-7	C Rodriguez
11 (5) 04 VORTKIAN 12 M Dods 9-7	C Beasley
12(13) 5009 YASEE K Ryan 9-7	S Gray
13 (8) 60 PENELOPE'S SISTER 21 J Goldie 9-7	G Downing
14 (1) RUTHERGLEN ROSE K Dajlesh 9-7	B Garrity

15-8 Balic Voyage, 2-1 Chuzell, 13-2 Time Traveller, 10-1 Young Sead, 12-1 Vortigan, Beyond Reproach, 16-1 Tpo Town, 25-1 Hills Of Gold, Arkenstar.

1.50 Novice Stakes (2-Y-O: €4,123: 1m) (10)

1 (6) AMERICAN OAK T Eastery 9-7	D Allan
2 (5) 8 ARTISAN DANCER 20 C & M Johnson 9-7	J Hart
3 (10) 0 BAY DOUGLAS 33 C & M Johnson 9-7	C Beasley
4 (2) 44 CYCICAL 27 K Ryan 9-7	S Gray
5 (4) DESIGN (T) K Burke 9-7	C Lee
6 (10) 8 EPONIA PAS 7 J Goldie 9-7	G Downing
7 (3) HI ROYAL 27 R Ryan 9-7	K Stott
8 (1) POWER OF GOLD Palmer 9-7	T Marquand
9 (5) 4 REDPH 34 R Fahy 9-7	Osin Orr
10 (3) 6 LOVELY LADY 16 K Dajlesh 9-7	C Rodriguez

Events: Hi Royal, 5-1 Redph, 6-1 Power Of Gold, 13-2 Design, 10-1 Cycical, 16-1 Artisan Dancer, 20-1 American Oak, 33-1 Lovely Lady, 30-1 Epona Pas.

2.25 Handicap (€3,996: 5p) (22)

1 (8) 13663 BURJ MALINKA 20 (P,B,F,D) Adrian Nichols 4-9-13	B McHugh
2 (10) 00202 NEVER DARK 7 (D) T Jardine 5-9-12	D Tudhope
3 (21) 26063 PROSPECT 10 P Midgley 4-9-12	C Lee
4 (6) 60003 CLAM THE STARS 50 (T) T Eastery 3-9-11	D Fantman
5 (9) 12103 REFUGE 9 (T,D) M & D Eastery 5-9-10	C Beasley
6 (12) 51014 TRIPLE JAY 19 (H,P,D) T Eastery 4-9-9	D Allan
7 (10) 32650 LADY LADE 40 (D) K Dajlesh 3-9-8	B Garrity
8 (5) 34133 LITTLE MUDGY 7 (B,F,C,D) S Spencer 6-9-9	D Swift
9 (17) 61205 LADY CELIA 10 (D) R Fahy 5-9-7	Osin Orr
10 (1) 15500 GOWANLAVE 17 (P,D) P Kirby 5-9-7	Ryan Sexton (5)
11(11) 30150 LANTIN FIVE 16 (D) P Midgley 5-9-6	J Hart
12(18) 05304 YAZAMIN 20 (D) K Ryan 4-9-6	K Stott
13(16) 50500 HOT DIGGITY DOG 66 (H) K Dajlesh 3-9-6	C Rodriguez
14(19) 34120 SIKOR 14 (D) Miss L Perratt 4-9-4	H Russell (3)
15(13) 23234 USTATH 15 (D) R Fell 4-9-4	B Curtis
16 (2) 20543 ATANASO 27 (D) J Goldie 9-9-13	Shannon Watts (7)
17(15) 00035 TENERAL HALO 40 (D) K Dajlesh 3-9-13	S Gray
18(20) 6404 BONITO CAVALLI 27 J Goldie 4-8-10	G Downing
19 (7) 06950 KRAKEN POWER 20 T Goldie 3-8-10	Amie Waugh (5)
20(14) 55006 THE GLOAMING 79 (D) J Jardine 4-8-9	R Scott
21(22) 50001 BURTONLODGE BEAUTY 20 (P,D) Miss L Perratt 3-8-7	Joanna Mason

22 (4) 00000 NODSASGOODASAWINK 20 (P) Miss L Perratt 4-8-7 W Pyle (7) |

11-2 Burj Malinka, 6-1 Never Dark, 7-1 Little Mudgy, 10-1 Ustath, Prospect, 12-1 Burtonlodge Beauty, Lady Celia, 16-1 others.

3.00 Handicap (€15,462: 1m 2p) (14)

1 (1) 00021 WHAT'S THE STORY 45 (P,D) K Dajlesh 8-10-0	N Stott
2 (2) 02320 REVICH 28 (V,D) R Spencer 6-10-0	D Tudhope
3 (6) 60020 CHICSTER 26 (CD) K Dajlesh 5-9-13	C Rodriguez
4 (3) 32012 SHIN CHAUVAIN 14 (C) J Goldie 10-9-8	G Downing
5 (10) 56644 FAYALD 8 Ewan Williams 6-9-6	R Scott
6 (12) 42040 FISHABLE 20 (P,T,D) T Eastery 5-9-5	D Allan
7 (9) 15-04 YORKSHIRE LADY 27 (D) M & D Eastery 4-9-5	Joanna Mason
8 (4) 24041 LOVE IS GOLDEN 14 (D) P & M Johnson 4-9-4	C Beasley
9 (13) 1-442 ALI MURBER 13 (D) W Muir 3-9-4	T Marquand
10 (2) 60000 MR ALAN 28 (P,C) G Baughy 3-9-4	S Gray
11(14) 00004 COCKALORUM 14 (D) R Fell 7-9-2	B Curtis
12(11) 01540 SOCIETY RED 47 (D) R Fahy 9-9-2	Osin Orr
13 (3) 43136 TILSIT 20 (P,T,D) R M Smith 5-9-9	R Hornby
14 (8) -0403 FIRST IMPRESSION 11 (CD) J Quinn 5-9-0	J Hart

7-2 Al Mubhir, 6-1 What's The Story, 7-1 Love Is Golden, 8-1 First Impression, Revich, 10-1 Chichester, Cockalorum, 12-1 Fayal.

3.35 Handicap (€8,856: 1m 2p) (11)

1 (2) 50604 THE FLYING GINGER 11 (D) P R Fell 4-9-11	B Curtis
2 (4) 4251 MISTY DANCER 20 (D) S & E Ciford 3-9-8	R Hornby
3 (1) 32031 MILEMOY LOYD 12 (D) T Eastery 4-9-8	D Allan
4 (7) 36012 DUNGAR GLORY 12 A Keatley 3-9-8	Ryan Sexton (5)
5 (5) 321 REMEMBERING 17 (H) W Haggas 3-9-8	T Marquand
6 (10) 31442 SAILING JAYNE 10 (D) R O'Hara 3-9-6	D Tudhope
7 (8) 12525 MY LITTLE QUEENS 11 (D) R Fahy 4-9-5	Osin Orr
8 (4) 00504 BOLLIN MARGARET 13 (P,D) T Eastery 3-9-3	D Fantman
9 (11) 34255 CESTINE STAR 27 K Dajlesh 3-8-11	G Lee
10 (3) 32030 COSSA SARA 10 (D) J Goldie 4-9-6	Amie Waugh (5)
11 (8) -6035 GIVE GRACE 33 J Jardine 3-8-4	S Gray

9-1 Remembering, 9-2 Misty Dancer, 6-1 Milemo Loyd, 8-1 Dugar, 10-1 My Little Queens, Sailing Jayne, 12-1 The Flying Ginger, Bollin Margaret.

4.10 Handicap (Div I: €3,996: 1m) (10)

1 (1) 21005 PROFESSIONAL WIDOW 25 (P,D) R Spencer 4-10-1	D Tudhope
2 (6) 52050 DULLA BHATTI 11 (P) M Dods 4-9-12	C Beasley
3 (5) 46600 CASSY 0 19 (B,C,D) T Eastery 5-9-12	D Allan
4 (4) 05614 ASDAA 39 (P,D) C & M Johnson 6-9-9	J Hart
5 (9) 00040 PARYS MOUNTAIN 3 (H,T,D) T Eastery 8-9-9	Brandon Willkie (7)
6 (7) -0006 CISCO DISCO 42 (V) R Fahy 4-9-8	Osin Orr
7 (10) 46000 TOMMY G 7 (D) J Goldie 9-9-5	T Marquand
8 (8) 16 WOTEVER NEXT 143 (T) A Keatley 3-9-6	Ryan Sexton (5)
9 (3) 30224 RED ASTAIRE 10 T Eastery 3-9-4	D Fantman
10 (2) 00-03 SUN HILL 20 M & D Eastery 3-9-7	Joanna Mason

9-2 Sun Hill, 6-1 Professional Widow, 7-1 Red Astaire, ASDAA, Cassy 0, 8-1 Tommy G, Cisco Disco, Wotever Next.

4.45 Handicap (Div I: €3,996: 1m) (10)

1 (7) 24004 A BOY NAMED IVY 40 (C,D) M Dods 4-10-1	C Beasley
2 (2) 12306 GOLDEN SANDS 47 & M Johnston 3-9-10	J Hart
3 (1) 10545 END ZONE 12 (D) R Fell 5-9-10	B Curtis
4 (6) 00504 DEVILWALA 13 (P) T Eastery 4-9-9	Osin Orr
5 (5) 1665 ESHTORA 97 S & E Ciford 3-9-8	T Marquand
6 (10) 01231 SHIMMERING SANDS 28 M & D Eastery 3-9-5	S Gray
7 (4) 20005 BASHFUL 47 (P) J Jardine 4-9-9	C Lee
8 (8) 31030 MOTARAJEL 16 (P,D) T Eastery 5-9-2	D Fantman
9 (2) 42040 CHINESE SPIRIT 16 (B,F,D) Miss L Perratt 8-9-9	G Lee
10 (7) 25204 MAC AILEY 15 (B,D) T Eastery 6-9-9	D Tudhope

4-9 Shimmering Sands, 3-1 A Boy Named Ivy, 8-1 Eshtora, End Zone, 10-1 Devilwala, 12-1 Golden Sands, Mac Ailey, Motarajel.

5.20 Handicap (€3,456: 7p) (14)

1 (10) 20632 GLOBAL HUMOR 9 (B,C,D) J Goldie 7-9-13	T Marquand
2 (4) 14000 HAMMAM 37 (T,C,D) Liam Bailey 8-9-13	B Curtis
3 (9) 05045 FLYING PURSUIT 18 (C,D) T Eastery 9-9-11	R Scott
4 (5) 46502 NOVAK 13 (D) J Jardine 3-9-10	Ryan Sexton (5)
5 (13) 33122 MUMHAMMER 21 (B,F,D) Miss L Perratt 4-9-6	H Russell (3)
6 (14) 22106 FAR FROM A RUBY 12 (C) K Stott 5-9-9	J Garrity
7 (2) 00622 TIMBUKONE 29 (V,B,F) R Dajlesh 3-9-9	C Rodriguez
8 (12) 46600 TURBO COMMAND 15 (D) Mrs A Hamilton 5-9-9	G Lee
9 (8) 04310 EMERALD LADY 12 (D) K R Burke 3-9-7	P-L Jamn (3)
10 (6) 4-500 MINT TILL 9 M & D Eastery 3-9-7	C Beasley
11 (7) 4-40 SUPERSTAR DJ 103 R Spencer 3-9-5	K Stott
12(13) 42434 RICK MOUGH 20 (D) P,B,F,D) J Quinn 3-9-3	J Hart
13(11) 60004 MUM GOING ON 14 (D) M Dods 3-9-3	D Tudhope
14 (3) -6446 ONE MORE TRY 17 (P) R Fahy 4-9-8	Osin Orr

9-2 Hammam, 5-1 Timbukone, 7-1 Rum Going On, 8-1 Global Humor, Emerald Lady, 10-1 Flying Pursuit, Far From A Ruby, 12-1 others.

Chelmsford

Rob Wright	7.00 Apollo One
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Sport Cricket

Mike Atherton

Chief Cricket Correspondent



Technology eroding umpires' authority

Three days ago, during the one-day international in Cairns between Australia and New Zealand, Steve Smith gave a vivid illustration of how the relationship between players and umpires has changed in recent years. Not content with being one of the best batsmen in the world, Smith was intent on officiating a moment in the game as well.

Just before facing a ball from Jimmy Neesham, Smith had realised that New Zealand had one too few fielders inside the inner circle, contrary to the regulations. Confident, therefore, that he could not be given out, Smith aimed a mighty heave to the leg side, throwing all caution to the wind. He middled the ball and it sailed into the crowd for six.

Rather than wait for the umpire to signal a no-ball, as surely would have been the case a generation ago, Smith started signalling a free hit of his own accord the moment the ball left the bat, by circling his arm frantically above his head. He then strode towards the square-leg umpire, pointing at each of the fielders who were outside the inner circle. In effect, he called the free hit himself.

Smith is no stranger to these kind of antics. When he was batting at the SCG during the Ashes last year, he set off for the pavilion at the merest hint of rain, despite the determination of the umpires to stay on. Towards the dying stages of the game, when Stuart Broad and James Anderson were batting out for the draw and Smith was bowling leg spin because of bad light, a sprinkle of juice from the skies brought forth no such swift retreat.

This kind of carry-on is anathema to players of a previous generation who, while occasionally in moments of exasperation could be found guilty of obvious dissent, generally accepted the distance in authority between them and umpires. The umpires ran the game; their decisions were final and players, by and large, abided by them, even if they grumbled frequently about injustice and fairness.

Stories abound of players chafing at authority from time to time. At the Oval last week was Chris Broad, who famously had to be pulled away from the crease by Graham Gooch in Pakistan in 1987. On that tour, a full day of Test cricket was abandoned — the most recent instance before the death of the Queen that England lost a day to anything other than weather — because of the stand-off between the umpire, Shakoor Rana, and Mike Gatting, the England captain. But these instances were rare.

The Decision Review System (DRS) has fundamentally altered the perception of umpires' authority, though. With three reviews per innings in a Test match, scarcely a decision is made without incurring debate by players. In essence, this has worked well at international level: fewer mistakes are made and the relationships between players, which would occasionally flare up in the past out of frustration, have improved.

Neutral umpires, improved standards of umpiring and DRS have led to a more



Smith smashed a six, knowing too few fielders were in the circle, before signalling for a free hit, inset

harmonious game, with better decision-making. Below international cricket, the picture is not quite so clear, as Lancashire's response on Tuesday to a six-point deduction in the County Championship suggested.

To summarise briefly: Lancashire were under a suspended sentence for previous misdemeanours; two further instances this summer of what umpires took to be dissent brought a six-point penalty, reduced because of the minor nature of the infractions. And they were minor: the players involved left the crease immediately upon being given out, albeit having shown some surprise at the decisions.

Lancashire's response was robust, at once accepting the punishment while disputing its fairness. Beyond narrow self-interest, the club made some interesting points, in particular around the relationship between players and umpires which, it suggested, is not helped by the latter making snap judgments on penalties.

"Everyone would benefit from taking a breath" which would allow "umpires to build working relationships with players" as opposed to handing down punishments "which only creates tension," Mark Chilton, the club's director of cricket, said. I would agree with that

point. My playing experience suggested that the best umpires combined good decision-making with a calm, rather than officious, manner. David Shepherd from my own generation was a great example; Marais Erasmus, more recently, another. Good umpires defuse situations rather than inflame them, which is more difficult if they have to impose sanctions almost immediately.

But, in essence, Lancashire's response highlights how technology has outstripped decision-making, which relies solely on the human touch below international level. Last year, for example, when Smith and his protégé Marnus Labuschagne were criticised mildly in the Australian press for lingering at the crease too long, it was in the Sheffield Shield (the Australian equivalent of the county game) where that focus landed.

At domestic level there is no recourse to technology and reviews. Set against that, every ball of every county game is streamed. Players have the ability to watch, over and over again, each ball they face and each ball they deliver. It is not difficult to see how that disparity between technological advance and human fallibility will have consequences around player reactions in

Unstoppable rise of the franchises

A column some weeks ago, focusing on the young and thus far uncapped South African batsman Dewald Brevis, raised the possibility of players being contracted by domestic T20 franchises all year round, rather than their nations. Brevis, 19, was here on a tour with what was essentially a Mumbai Indians development XI, unsurprising given his connection with that franchise in the IPL.

Mumbai have announced some new appointments; not of players, but of coaches, with Mahela Jayawardene and Zaheer Khan given new roles described as "global head of performance" and "global head of development" respectively. Mumbai also own teams in the new tournaments in South Africa and the UAE, beginning in January.

The aim, said Mumbai, is to "build a global cricket legacy" and with the expansion of the franchise into two other countries they recognised the need "for a central team". Coaches are being recruited for their "global" ambitions for now, with the consequence that some will be removed from consideration from the international circuit. Players will not be far behind.

an era where DRS has chipped away at umpiring authority. A generation ago, a batsman might have walked into a dressing-room and complained about a decision. His team-mates might have nodded out of goodwill ("there he goes, complaining again") and said some placating words, but there was no evidence to hand and the matter would be forgotten. Now, said batsman probably replays the decision over and over again to his colleagues on a laptop, so that the perceived injustice is registered, festering and lingering.

Professionals are less willing now to accept decisions with the equanimity that players of previous generations were forced to show. This shift in attitude reflects all kinds of changes: technological, mainly, but also that professional sport (not just cricket) is less accepting of the role of luck and human error.

Previously, luck — both good and bad — was seen as being part and parcel of the game ("it will even out in the end," was often heard, even though when those bits of luck came your way could be the difference between a long run in the team or not). Not now, regrettably.

Umpires are no longer seen as the sole dispensers of justice, as they once were. Once upon a time, Jack Fingleton, the fine former Australian cricketer turned journalist, could write, only partly in jest, that umpires were more powerful than politicians, able to turn nations to ecstasy or grief with a twitch of the index finger.

Those words could not be written today.

Yesterday's racing results

Beverly

Going: soft (good to soft in places)

1.42 (1m 100yd) 1. **She's Got Bottle** (Taylor Fisher, 28-1); 2. Martin's Brig (5-2 fav); 3. Barrister Blaster (40-1); 12 ran. 3l, ind. R Fell. 2.17 (5f) 1. **Havana By The Sea** (P Hanagan, 5-4 fav); 2. Oahu (13-2); 3. Catwalk Model (12-1); 14 ran. 1l, 1l. Craig Lidster.

2.52 (7f 90yd) 1. **Vetiver** (P J McDonald, 15-8 fav); 2. Anjo Bonita (9-4); 3. Powdering (9-1). 8 ran. NR: Elusive Truth, 1/4l, 2/4l. A M Balding. 3.27 (5f 101) **Impeachment** (Jason Hart, 5-2 fav); 2. Tephi (11-2); 3. Storm Fox (9-2); 9 ran. NR: Azucena, Hd, 6l. J Ferguson.

4.02 (5f 1) **Elegant Erin** (G Lee, 9-2); 2. Ey Up It's Maggie (3-1 fav); 3. May Blossom (5-1). 12 ran. 3/4l, 3/4l. P T Midgley.

4.35 (1m 1f 207yd) 1. **Frankendael** (D Allan, 15-2); 2. Reach (7-1); 3. Broadpear (8-11 fav). 7 ran. 1/4l, 1/4l. T D Easterby.

5.05 (1m 1f 207yd) 1. **Tele Red** (C Lee, 7-2 fav); 2. Dandy's Angel (16-1); 3. Jackamundo (8-1). 13 ran. NR: Hector's Here, 3/4l, 1l. K R Burke.

Placepot: £42.60. Quadpot: £11.60.

Kelso

Going: good (good to firm in places)

3.40 (2m 4f 189yd hdl) 1. **Mortlach** (J Hogan, 4-9 fav); 2. Dame De Fortune (100-30); 3. Longstone Cowboy (15-2). 6 ran. 5l, 5/4l. F O'Brien.

4.15 (2m 4f 189yd hdl) 1. **The Navigator** (Danny McMenamin, 4-1); 2. Solo Saxophone (3-1 it-fav); 3. Calus Marcus (4-1). 5 ran. NR: Coolbane Boy, Curious Times, Dallas Des Pictors. 2l, 4l. Mrs Dianne Sayer.

4.45 (2m 5f 133yd ch) 1. **Racius Felix** (B S Hughes, Evens fav); 2. Sword Of Fate (8-1); 3. Cardboard Gangster (9-4). 5 ran. NR: Ladronne, 1/4l, 6l. R Menzies.

5.15 (2m 2f 25yd hdl) 1. **Genever Dragon** (B S Hughes, 3-1 fav); 2. Animore (7-1); 3. Calliope (7-2). 9 ran. NR: Old Jewry, Nk, 3/4l, D McCain Jr.

5.45 (2m 1f 14yd ch) 1. **Gold Des Bois** (C O'Farrell, 5-2); 2. Tico Times (13-8 fav); 3. If Not For Dylan (3-1). 4 ran. NR: Snelough, 2l, nk. J Jardine.

6.15 (2m 1f 14yd ch) 1. **Getaman** (Kielan Woods, 10-11 fav); 2. Begoodtoyourself (7-2); 3. Deerfoot (16-1). 4 ran. NR: Living's Boy An Co, Spark Of Madness, 5l, 1/4l, D J Jeffreys.

6.45 (2m 5f 15yd Flat) 1. **Bridget Breeze** (Sean Quinlan, 11-4); 2. Moonshine Molly (15-8 fav); 3. Blue Clover (5-2). 6 ran. NR: Lady Stanwix, 3/4l, 8l. G Boanas.

Placepot: £27.90. Quadpot: £12.10.

Sandown Park

Going: heavy

1.50 (5f 10yd) 1. **Phoenix Star** (Oliver Stammers, 4-1); 2. Pop Dancer (16-1); 3. Harb (11-1). 8 ran. NR: Wiley Post, 1l, 1/4l. Jessica Macey. 2.25 (1m 1f) **Local Dynasty** (W Buick, 11-10 fav); 2. Opera Ghost (125-1); 3. Sir Laurence Graff (9-4). 7 ran. 3/4l, 1/4l. C Appleby.

3.00 (7f) 1. **Striking Star** (W Buick, 15-8); 2. Nothing To Sea (10-1); 3. Radetsky March (13-2). 10 ran. NR: Lahab, Sea Squared, 1/4l, 1/4l. C Appleby.

3.35 (1m) 1. **Bayside Boy** (W Buick, 4-6 fav); 2. Sweet Believer (17-2); 3. Escobar (11-4). 5 ran. NR: Magical Morning, Sinjaari, 1/4l, 2/4l. R Varian.

4.10 (1m) 1. **I'll Be There** (W Buick, 18-5); 2.

Tango Tonight (5-1); 3. New Heights (4-1). 6 ran. NR: Belhaven, Rose Barton, 2l, 2/4l. G Boughiey.

4.40 (1m 1f 209yd) 1. **Nonsuch Lad** (A Keeley, 6-1); 2. Lady Shotgun (9-4 fav); 3. Blueberry Hill (7-1). 9 ran. NR: Savrola, ns, 1/4l. J R Boyle.

5.10 (1m 1f 209yd) 1. **Miss Down Under** (R Kingscote, 18-1); 2. Golden Chain (9-2); 3. Midgetonamission (18-1). 12 ran. NR: Decelt, Naasma, 3/4l, 1/4l. Mrs A L Perrett.

Placepot: £191.40. Quadpot: £17.80.

Yarmouth

Going: good

2.10 (6f 3yd) 1. **Priscilla's Wish** (Harry Davies, 9-4 fav); 2. Hot Chesnut (17-2); 3. Breach (15-2). 12 ran. NR: Company Minx, 3/4l, 2/4l. P J McBride.

2.45 (7f 3yd) 1. **Lord Of Biscay** (Andrea Atzeni,

6-1); 2. Obelix (10-11 fav); 3. Sea Eagle (100-30). 11 ran. 1/4l, 2/4l. R Varian.

3.20 (1m 2f 23yd) 1. **Shaara** (Jim Crowley, 7-2); 2. Mise En Scene (8-1); 3. Ville De Grace (9-4 fav). 13 ran. NR: Timeless Soul, ns, 1/4l. J T Godson.

3.55 (1m 1f 21yd) 1. **Good Birthday** (Andrea Atzeni, 10-1); 2. Bolthole (8-1); 3. Rhythmic N Rock (12-1). 10 ran. 2/4l, nk. A M Balding.

4.30 (1m 3yd) 1. **X J Rascal** (R L Moore, 2-5 fav); 2. Star Player (2-1); NR: Twilight Guest, Sh hd, G Boughiey.

5.00 (6f 3yd) 1. **Delirious Dream** (Benoit D L Sayette, 4-1); 2. Taritino (17-2); 3. Not For Profit (11-1). 5 ran. 1l, nk. K P De Foy.

5.37 (6f 3yd) 1. **Time Step** (Harry Davies, 85-40 fav); 2. Majeski Man (100-30); 3. Society Lion (6-1). 7 ran. NK. Quadpot: £34.30.

Archer set to return to game in new year

CONTINUED FROM BACK

is understood to be weighing up a career move having been the Surrey director of cricket for the past eight years.

Since taking on his new job at the start of the summer, Key has managed the selection process in conjunction with the respective coaches and captains. However, he has always stated that he wanted a full-time national selector to head the selection panel with Brendon McCullum and Ben Stokes for the Test team and Matthew Mott and Jos Buttler for the limited-overs sides.

The selector will work closely with Mo Bobat, the ECB's performance director, and David Court, the ECB's talent identification lead and will have a team of talent scouts working underneath him. The job will be primarily about forging relationships with the 18 first-class counties and spending a significant amount of time watching county players.

Meanwhile, Jofra Archer is set to return to action in the new year having not played any competitive cricket for 14 months after elbow surgery and a stress fracture in his back.

The fast bowler most recently played a Test for England on the tour to India in March 2021. However, his rehabilitation since scans picked up a stress fracture at the start of this summer has been going well. The 27-year-old had short net sessions last week. If all goes to plan he will return in a T20 franchise league in January and February.

Archer, 27, will join up with the Test squad at a training camp in the UAE in

late November, shortly before England's three-match series in Pakistan. The Sussex seamer will not be part of the squad as the England management want one of their prized assets to be fully fit for next summer's Ashes. He is expected to ease his way back into international cricket with some limited-overs matches next year, with the tour to Bangladesh in March a possibility.

Moeen Ali and Adil Rashid are unlikely to be part of England's Test tour to Pakistan in December despite initial suggestions that they would make themselves available for a return to red-ball cricket.

The Times understands that Ali, who announced his retirement from Test cricket last year, has not made up his mind about a possible return. He previously indicated that he had held positive conversations with Key and McCullum this summer.

However, the 35-year-old all-rounder is conscious of his workload with this month's T20 series in Pakistan, three T20s against Australia next month, before the T20 World Cup in October and November, where England's coaching staff will be bolstered by Michael Hussey and David Saker. He will then be appearing as a marquee player in the new UAE T20 franchise league in January and February.

The England selection panel will be looking to take three spinners with them for the Test series in December, and had hoped that one or both could team up with Jack Leach as options. Their absence could open the door to recalls for Dom Bess and Liam Dawson.



Curran scores rapid maiden first-class ton

Until this week Tom Curran had not made a first-class appearance since April 2019 — but if Surrey wrap up a victory vital for their title push today, he

will have played a key part. Not with the ball, for he has not taken a wicket in either innings, but with the bat, having thundered to a maiden first-class hundred off 85 balls yesterday (Geoffrey Dean writes).

When Curran arrived with Surrey 244 for six, they were still 95 behind Northamptonshire and facing a first-innings

deficit. Twenty-seven overs later, when Hashim Amla got out, as many as 144 runs had been plundered for the seventh wicket — and Amla only got 32 of them.

Curran, 27, has metamorphosed into a limited-overs specialist in the past 3½ years as injuries — most recently a stress fracture of the back — in the IPL, England

Curran made a century in his first red-ball game since 2019. Inset, Potts continued his fine year

white-ball appearances and Covid bubbles have contributed to his absence from four-day cricket.

It was no surprise, therefore, when he batted from the outset yesterday in one-day mode.

Booming drives on the up, contemptuous pulls and nimble use of his feet to hit the spinners down the ground brought him 15 fours and three sixes.

When the hosts batted again, 82 runs adrift, Curran held a fine catch at third slip to provide the breakthrough with the wicket of Will Young.

There was similarly enterprising batting in a thrilling finish at Headingley yesterday, as Shane Snater led Essex to a one-wicket victory over Yorkshire, standing unbeaten at the finish on 65 from 51 balls.

In the second tier, Matthew Potts continued to dominate at Leicester. The England bowler followed up first-innings figures of six for 52 with seven for 47 in the second to put Durham firmly in control.

It was a productive day too for Jake Libby, whose 215 gave Worcestershire a first-innings lead over Sussex of 218. They will chase victory today.

LV= Insurance County Championship scoreboards

Division One Northamptonshire v Surrey

Northampton (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 127 runs ahead of Surrey

Warwickshire First Innings 339 (N Gay 145, R Keogh 123; K A J Roach 5 for 95) Second Innings

E N Gay lbw b Clark 26
W Young c Curran b Worrall 1
A Procter lbw b Atkinson 55
J J Cobb c Geddes b Steel 11
R Keogh c Clark b Steel 23
R S Vasconcelos not out 51
S Azaib not out 19
Extras (b 4, lb 12, w 1, nb 6) 23
Total (5 wks, 65 overs) 209

Fall of wickets 1-15, 2-47, 3-72, 4-114, 5-161, 6-244, 7-388, 8-388, 9-400.

Bowling Sanderson 22-1-70-1; White 21-3-55-2; Williams 21-1-14-2; Procter 17-5-52-1; Sales 6-4-3-0; Keogh 13-3-2-52-4; Zailu 4-0-19-0; Umpires G D Lloyd and P J Hartley.

Surrey First Innings (overnight 224-5) H M Amba lbw b Keogh 133
J Clark c Gay b Williams 30
T K Curran c Procter b Williams 115
A A P Atkinson b Keogh 0
K A J Roach not out 9
D J Worrall b Keogh 12
Extras (b 4, lb 12, nb 14) 21
Total (10.5 overs) 421

Fall of wickets 1-20, 2-30, 3-46, 4-80, 5-195, 6-244, 7-388, 8-388, 9-400.

Bowling Sanderson 22-1-70-1; White 21-3-55-2; Williams 21-1-14-2; Procter 17-5-52-1; Sales 6-4-3-0; Keogh 13-3-2-52-4; Zailu 4-0-19-0; Umpires G D Lloyd and P J Hartley.

Warwickshire v Somerset

Edgbaston (third day of four): Somerset, with six second-innings wickets in hand, are 300 runs ahead of Warwickshire

Somerset First Innings 219 (L Gregory 60, S Khan 53 not out; M Siraj 5 for 82) Second Innings (overnight 13-2) A Lammoncy c Yates b Hannon-Dalby 40
T B Abell b Briggs 87
G A Bartlett not out 91
L P Goldworthy not out 44
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 6) 15
Total (4 wks, 109 overs) 277

Fall of wickets 1-0, 2-7, 3-36, 4-158, 5-210, 6-321, 7-321, 8-321, 9-321, 10-321, 11-321, 12-321, 13-321, 14-321, 15-321, 16-321, 17-321, 18-321, 19-321, 20-321, 21-321, 22-321, 23-321, 24-321, 25-321, 26-321, 27-321, 28-321, 29-321, 30-321, 31-321, 32-321, 33-321, 34-321, 35-321, 36-321, 37-321, 38-321, 39-321, 40-321, 41-321, 42-321, 43-321, 44-321, 45-321, 46-321, 47-321, 48-321, 49-321, 50-321, 51-321, 52-321, 53-321, 54-321, 55-321, 56-321, 57-321, 58-321, 59-321, 60-321, 61-321, 62-321, 63-321, 64-321, 65-321, 66-321, 67-321, 68-321, 69-321, 70-321, 71-321, 72-321, 73-321, 74-321, 75-321, 76-321, 77-321, 78-321, 79-321, 80-321, 81-321, 82-321, 83-321, 84-321, 85-321, 86-321, 87-321, 88-321, 89-321, 90-321, 91-321, 92-321, 93-321, 94-321, 95-321, 96-321, 97-321, 98-321, 99-321, 100-321, 101-321, 102-321, 103-321, 104-321, 105-321, 106-321, 107-321, 108-321, 109-321, 110-321, 111-321, 112-321, 113-321, 114-321, 115-321, 116-321, 117-321, 118-321, 119-321, 120-321, 121-321, 122-321, 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Sport Rugby union

Worcester face forfeited match over unpaid bills

Will Kelleher
Deputy Rugby Correspondent

Worcester Warriors are on the brink of forfeiting their first home game of the season over unpaid bills to external security and medical workers.

Worcester are scheduled to face Exeter Chiefs on Sunday. Their own doctors and physiotherapists have received money but the club cannot stage the game without extra paramedics, ambulances and stewards at Sixways. Cancelling the match would seriously threaten the club's competitive future in the Gallagher Premiership. Worcester would not necessarily be kicked out of the league immediately but five points would go to Exeter.

The Times understands that those health-and-safety suppliers wrote to the club's co-owners, Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham, and gave them a deadline, asking to be paid in full by 5pm yesterday or they would be unable to turn up on Sunday. A minimum of about £25,000 is required to pay them and about £120,000 needed to stage the fixture in full.

Separately, it is believed that Worcester's staff have told the owners they must have their complete salaries paid first, before those external suppliers.

All players have had their August wages in full, but the director of rugby, Steve Diamond, has not and other rugby staff are owed 35 per cent of their salaries, with some still without a penny for last month. Topping up those out of pocket would cost about £80,000, it is understood. Many at the club are growing tired of the co-owners' broken promises, and about 15 non-playing staff have already resigned.

Goldring and Whittingham told staff on Monday that they had agreed a deal to sell the club to an unnamed buyer, and were set to sign heads of terms imminently, which would provide "significant funds" to keep Worcester running. They announced the same message publicly on Tuesday.

Worcester confirmed last night that

no agreement had been signed with the prospective new owner. The club are working with the league, RFU and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in an attempt to play their Exeter match.

"Worcester are still awaiting final sign-off of the heads of term on the agreement of the sale to a buyer," the club said a statement. "The agreement remains with the lawyers of the respective parties but signing of the heads of terms is required before the sale can be concluded. We appreciate that the delay is frustrating for our loyal staff, sponsors and supporters and we thank them for their continued patience."

Diamond, while upbeat about the club's immediate future, is wary of another "false dawn". "I'm not here to fluff it," he said. "If people aren't paid, and suppliers aren't paid, then I don't think, logistically, the game can go on."

"Let's hope it's not another false dawn. These people have got to deliver and they're in the last throes of that. If they're not then I probably won't be sat in front of you again. If it turns out to be a cock-and-bull story then it'll be out in the wash this weekend because we won't be playing."

Even if payments do go through in time for Worcester to stage Sunday's match, there are fears about the club's capability to sell tickets. It is understood that season tickets have not been sent out yet, and only a handful of seats have been sold for Sunday. With a skeleton staff there may not be the capacity to physically supply match tickets.

The Times has also been told that many fans are reluctant to fill the ground, or buy food and drink at Sixways, having lost all faith in the owners. The feeling is they do not want to line Goldring and Whittingham's pockets.

Diamond has not been told who the prospective new owners are but needs immediate clarity. "What I require, the club, players, sponsors and supporters require, is for this to be done as quickly as possible," he said. "If they get an investor it's a remarkable feat."



DAN MULLAN/RFU/GETTY IMAGES
Rowland proved too hot to handle for Wales, scoring three tries

England set record of 25 straight wins

Helena Rowland scored a hat-trick to help England to a convincing 73-7 victory over Wales at Ashton Gate and the all-time longest winning

streak in international rugby union history — 25 consecutive Test matches. This was the Red Roses' final warm-up match for the World Cup, which begins on October

8 in New Zealand. Rowland set the tone in the 11-try win but the cool heads of Emily Scarratt and Abbie Ward were key. Wales have lost their two warm-up matches.

Wilkinson's kicking guru helps Randall

John Westerby

Covering across in defence in his own 22 against Bath, Harry Randall caught the ball and called for the mark. Ten metres from his own line and five metres in from the right-hand touchline, the angle worked against him for making much ground with the clearing kick.

But Randall, the Bristol Bears and England scrum half, has been working assiduously to add to his kicking repertoire and he unfurled a beautifully struck spiral that crossed the touchline beyond halfway, clearing the danger.

Pat Lam, the Bears director of rugby, used this example to illustrate the positive impact made on his squad by Dave Alred, the renowned kicking coach who made his name as Jonny Wilkinson's guru. "If Harry had done a drop punt, he'd have got it 15 metres on

that angle," Lam said. "He had a go at the spiral. It was effortless. Dave is giving the guys belief in their ability."

Initially engaged on a short-term deal, Alred's arrangement with Bristol, his home-town club, was this week extended for the rest of the season. While he is maintaining his consultancy duties with the game's leading kickers, as well as his work as a performance coach with other sportsmen such as the golfer Francesco Molinari, Lam feels that Alred has contributed to Bristol's start, which began with Saturday's win over Bath.

Alred, left, also works with the golfer Molinari



"He's a world-class operator," Lam said. "He still works with Johnny Sexton and Beauden Barrett. What he's been able to do in a short time has been phenomenal."

The benefits for Randall could be considerable, as he looks to play his way into England's World Cup squad. "He's like a psychologist as well," Lam said. "His wisdom and knowledge is tremendous."

Tom Curry will return to action for Sale Sharks against Bath on Saturday. The England flanker took a 12-week break from contact and saw a neuroscientist after the concussion he suffered in Australia this summer.

UK's youngest senior player, 13, on Premier League radar

Football
Matthew Kavanagh

A 13-year-old in Northern Ireland who became the youngest UK senior footballer on Tuesday has already been scouted by Premier League clubs, according to his manager.

Christopher Atherton made his debut for Glendon in the Northern Ireland Football League Cup, the second-tier cup competition in Northern Irish football, aged only 13 years and 329 days during their 6-0 win over Dollingstown — and got an assist with his first touch for Glendon's sixth goal.

Gary Hamilton, Glendon's player-manager, says that the forward is on the radar of clubs in England's top flight and revealed he might have be-



come the youngest senior player in the world but was unavailable for the final match of last season. That record is thought to belong to Souleymane Mamm, who played for Togo in a World Cup qualifier against Zambia in May 2001 at 13 years and 319 days.

"There's been lots of interest from Premier League clubs, they come and watch him," Hamilton said. "The problem is that the kid can't go over until he's 14. In England there's different rules. [Atherton] is a quiet, kid, but when he goes on the pitch that's where he comes out of his shell."

Atherton broke the record set by Eamonn Collins, who debuted for Blackpool on September 9, 1980, aged 14 years and 323 days in a win against Kilmarnock.

Arsenal-City game in limbo

Arsenal's postponed Europa League match against PSV Eindhoven will be played on October 20 — but the London club's Premier League game against Manchester City planned for the day before will have to be rescheduled (writes Martyn Ziegler).

There had been concerns that the schedule was so tight that Arsenal would have to forfeit the European tie — with the group stage having to finish before the World Cup starts in November — but City and the Premier League have agreed to move the domestic match to a date that will be set in "due course" to allow it to be played. This weekend's Premier League matches involving Arsenal and Manchester City are going ahead, which gives more flexibility in reorganising the fixture.

The game against PSV was due to take place today but was postponed on Metropolitan Police advice due to officer resources being stretched while the Queen is lying in state in London.

Clubs disappointed at Uefa for denying anthem request

CONTINUED FROM BACK

anthem before Champions League matches this week. Chelsea, Rangers and Manchester City are all understood to have asked to play *God Save The King* but Uefa turned them down.

The Premier League said in a statement: "All Premier League matches between Friday 16 and Sunday 18 September will provide an opportunity for the league, clubs and fans to come together to pay tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, honouring her extraordinary life and contribution to the nation and world."

"Players and match officials will wear black armbands as a mark of respect and, together with managers, will gather at the centre circle before kick-off."

"Fans will be asked to join a minute's silence, which will be followed by the national anthem, *God Save The King*."

Big screens and LED perimeter boards will display tribute images to

Her Majesty and flags at the grounds will be flying at half-mast.

"When the clock turns to 70 minutes, fans will be invited to applaud the Queen's 70-year reign."

The clubs involved in the Champions League said they were disappointed by Uefa's decision on the national anthem and expected it to be hugely unpopular with their fans. A Uefa statement said: "There will be no anthems played — this also includes the Uefa Champions League anthem — on the basis of maintaining a consistent pre-match ceremony with a subdued atmosphere and without any celebratory activities across all UK venues to show respect as we did last Thursday."

Celtic fans unveiled a banner with the words "F*** the Crown" at their match in Poland against Shakhtar Donetsk. The Celtic players showed respect by wearing black armbands but Uefa had already decided against a minute's silence before kick-off.

Why right wingback is issue Conte must resolve

Gary Jacob

When Antonio Conte labelled the Tottenham Hotspur job as his biggest challenge in management, he spoke about the need for firm foundations and a solid structure.

One of the first building blocks in Conte's trusted formula is having effective wingbacks to drive the team forward and create chances. The Italian made finding a pair a priority when he took charge ten months ago. He brought in his former player, Ivan Perisic, from Inter Milan for the left flank in the summer but has been frustrated on the right, where Tottenham's output has been muted. Emerson Royal is a traditional right back who struggles to produce with his final ball.

Without the vital cogs in his system, Conte's machine has stuttered and he has not had the productivity that he wanted to relieve the burden on Tottenham's front three, upon whom the team are so reliant for goals. Spurs have been mostly getting away with it but their 2-0 defeat by Sporting in the Champions League on Tuesday night was a reality check for a side who have not been at full throttle — despite being unbeaten until their trip to Portugal — as had been expected after a full pre-season under their demanding head coach.

Perisic showed his value in supplying the cross for Richarlison to head the first goal against Marseille in



Emerson's attacking limitations have been exposed

a 2-0 win in their first group game. The Croatian, who has rotated with Ryan Sessegnon, has created 12 chances and contributed three assists in all competitions this season — roughly four times the output of Emerson, who has started every game this season, and in fewer minutes.

Conte has tried to address his problem position. In January he lost out to Barcelona for Adama Traoré

and last month, Leeds United's Dan James turned down Spurs.

Conte has spoken about converting wingers Lucas Moura and Dejan Kulusevski into wingbacks, as he did successfully with Victor Moses at Chelsea and Perisic and Antonio Candreva at Inter. Moura twice featured at right wingback during the pre-season trip to South Korea but has been injured and is not expected

to return until after the international break. Should Conte want to pursue the idea, it would reduce his options to change a game as Kulusevski and Moura are the only realistic attacking options on the bench.

Matt Doherty, who ended strongly on the right last season and is fit after a knee injury, has played only eight minutes as a substitute, without Conte explaining why. Spurs scored 21

How Spurs full backs compare

Despite playing 680 minutes to Ivan Perisic's 461, Emerson Royal has been less effective as an attacking wingback this season

	Emerson Royal	Ivan Perisic
Total crosses	25	37
Successful crosses	5	14
Cross accuracy	20%	38%
Assists	1	3
Chances created	4	12

*2022-23 stats

goals across his previous six starts. Conte has been lukewarm about Djed Spence, the right back signed for up to £20 million from Middlesbrough, perhaps believing the money would have been better spent on an experienced player. Conte revealed it was not his decision to bring in the 22-year-old although he did approve the move, by way of a compromise for getting the other signings he wanted.

The head coach did not speak to his players in the dressing room after the defeat in Lisbon and brought forward a planned training session yesterday. He has a decision to make about Son Heung-min, who has gone eight matches without scoring having jointly won the Golden Boot last season with 23 goals. Conte has been reluctant to drop him, instead hoping that the 30-year-old would play himself into form. That did not work out against Sporting when Perisic got into more advanced positions than the South Korea forward, who was taken off 18 minutes from time.

Hugo Lloris, the captain, says that the team need to be more clinical. "If you leave the opponent alive, at one point they will have a chance to get a goal," the goalkeeper said.

United's journey into the unknown

Tie against Sheriff will be played under the shadow of Ukraine war, write **Paul Hirst** and **Robert O'Connor**

The decaying ten-storey apartment block next to the Zimbru Stadium in Chisinau does not look the most welcoming of places. The building, which sits atop a dentist's clinic that has also seen better days, has faded from white to grey and the metallic parts of the column are showing signs of rust.

It is a classic example of brutalist Soviet architecture. Homes built for the masses. The rusting cream Lada parked outside is another reminder of Moldova's time behind the Iron Curtain.

Although the flats may not be easy on the eye, tonight locals will flock there to gain a bird's-eye view of the game below. Manchester United, the 20-times champions of England, will take on the 20-times champions of Moldova, Sheriff Tiraspol.

The match, at the 10,000-capacity stadium, sold out within an hour even though tickets cost up to £72. The average Moldovan earns £325 per month after tax.

Normally in eastern Europe,

United would be exposed to a hostile atmosphere, but that may not be the case tonight. Many of the tickets have been sold to Chisinau residents, who are more interested in catching a glimpse of Cristiano Ronaldo and Bruno Fernandes than supporting Sheriff. "Go Manchester United," a young boy said outside the stadium yesterday when he overheard English voices.

The game will be played at the home of Zimbru, who are second bottom of the Moldovan Super Liga, rather than at Sheriff's stadium, which lies 40 miles east in Transnistria, a sliver of land that is wedged between Moldova and the western border of Ukraine.

Transnistria broke away from Moldova in 1990 with the help of Russian troops. The state, described by a former diplomat as "some kind of nightmarish Disneyland", is home to large Ukrainian and Russian populations. About 1,500 Russian troops are stationed there.

Sheriff wanted to play their European matches this season at their stadium in Tiraspol, the capital of Transnistria.

However, Uefa sent a letter to the club, which said "conclusions drawn by agencies specialised in international political analysis" meant no Uefa games would be played in Transnistria "until further notice". The period is likely to cover the duration of Russia's military activity in Ukraine.

Moyes wary of artificial pitch

David Moyes, the West Ham United manager, has said his team selection for tonight's Europa Conference League match against Danish side Silkeborg may be impacted by the game being played on an artificial pitch (Molly Hudson writes).

Michail Antonio trained in AstroTurf boots, while Craig Dawson and Aaron Cresswell may not be risked after coming back from injury. "It [the surface] has given me some thoughts," Moyes said. On rotating players in the competition, he added: "We will have to do that because of the level of the Premier League."

TV BT Sport 2, 8pm

Transnistria's precise role in the war is unclear. A series of explosions were reported in April, allegedly targeting the transmitter tower broadcasting Russian TV and radio, as well as the state security headquarters in Tiraspol and a military installation. Tiraspol and Moscow blamed Ukraine, and worrying rhetoric emerged from the Kremlin about the oppression of Russian speakers in Moldova, the same warnings that preceded the invasion of Ukraine.

The Black Sea port of Odesa, a key target of Russian attacks earlier in the war, lies 58 miles southeast of Tiraspol. If Russia captured the city, they would be within striking distance of Moldova.

"We have a lot of pro-Russian citizens in Moldova," a senior Moldovan football official said. "People are with Putin. We have normal people too, who appreciate this is an invasion. But we have cause to worry. If Russia occupies Ukraine, everybody understands the next target will probably be Moldova."

Sheriff's president, the former KGB agent Viktor Gushan, has bankrolled expensive signings from Africa and South America. The club's finest hour came last season, when they beat the eventual Champions League winners Real Madrid in the group stage, but that team have been sold off. "There is virtually no one left," the official said. "You have to understand the club's strategy. Sheriff is a business."

This year's recruits hail from Brazil, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau and the Ivory Coast. Few are likely to stay beyond the end of the season.

"Despite the almost complete replacement of the team, Sheriff continue to surprise the football world," Pavel Prokudin, the Transnistrian football association's president, said. "Is the fact they must now play in Chisinau bad for Transnistrian football? The only failure would be in an unsuccessful performance against United."

Others see failure through another lens. Ivan Testemitanu is a former Sheriff player who campaigns for home-grown players to be given a better chance of success. "The team itself doesn't represent our country," he said. "Moldovan football is not growing."

Rashford's recall hopes in doubt

Paul Hirst, Paul Joyce

Erik ten Hag has backed Marcus Rashford to make England's World Cup squad, even though the injured Manchester United forward is likely to miss the final two internationals before the tournament in Qatar.

Rashford, 24, has been ruled out of Manchester United's Europa League match against Sheriff Tiraspol in Moldova tonight because of a muscle injury that is also likely to sideline him for England's Nations League games against Italy and Germany this month.

There was already a doubt over Rashford's chances of making the squad after he was left out by Gareth Southgate last season because of poor form, though it is understood that the England manager had been minded to recall the forward — who has looked more like his old self so far this term — before the latest setback.

Asked if Rashford, who has not played for his country since last year's Euro 2020 final, can make Southgate's squad, Ten Hag, the United manager, said: "That's quite clear. Yes. In this season he had a great comeback and showed his great potential and quality. I don't think he will be out for too long. It's not really bad."

S Tiraspol v Manchester Utd
Europa League, group E
Today, 5.45pm
TV: BT Sport 2
Radio: talkSPORT

Sport Football

Mané needs time to adjust to life after Liverpool

Owen Slot

Chief Sports Writer



In the long and decorated career of Sadio Mané, little has embellished his reputation quite like the early-season struggles of the club that has been having to cope without him. Yet while Liverpool's stuttering start may emphasise the quality that departed in the summer, here in Munich, the argument is not yet so convincing.

There remains a sense of bafflement and delight that Mané would swap Anfield for the Allianz Arena, though that is more surrounding what the transfer says about the sparring for dominance between Europe's alpha male clubs than what Mané has brought to Bayern Munich on the field.

He started brightly, with five goals in his first six matches. The honeymoon was quickly over, though, and while Bayern have recorded three successive draws in the Bundesliga, Mané's goals have dried up and at only one point during Tuesday's unpersuasive victory over Barcelona did it appear that the good times might be about to roll again.

This, in the 40th minute, was telling. The two goals that Bayern would score were more about Barcelona's defensive error, or, in the case of Leroy Sané's strike, individual excellence. They were not a reflection of teamwork or the system. This one moment, however, did produce a collective unstitching of Barcelona, a move where Jamal Musiala's low cross should have been finished by Mané. But with Thomas Müller also about to pull the trigger, it instead finished in a misunderstanding, a pratfall collision and not so much as a shot.

Mané was substituted in the 70th minute and later greeted with some questioning that itched away at a sense of rolling underperformance. Mané said: "I can do much better, I know," and talked about "keeping on going".

What, he was asked, has to change for Bayern to see the best of him? "That's not a problem," the 30-year-old replied. "You'll see soon. Don't worry about that." And then, when he was asked why he didn't seem to be happy on the pitch, he laughed and said: "My face

looks serious, I am naturally like this, but I am really happy."

The same line of inquiry was put to Julian Nagelsmann, the head coach, and produced a similar response. "He just needs to adapt," Nagelsmann said. "I am certain he will succeed for us."

On reflection, there was one moment when Mané berated a team-mate for not seeing a pass to him. If he had been at Liverpool and he hadn't scored for four games, there would be no such sense of impending inquisition. That is partly because, after six seasons at Anfield, there was no case to answer, but also because there was no such responsibility to be on the scoresheet.

At Bayern, though he is not a replacement for Robert Lewandowski, he is the figurehead signing in attack in the same summer that the Poland striker made his disharmonious exit. He wasn't brought in to play as a No 9, but he does have expectation on him to play a leading role in a new, more varied and tactically flexible attacking unit.

So it seems premature to question Mané's impact as an individual against Barcelona when it was the system that was backfiring. There was no lack of possession on the fringes of the 18-yard box for Bayern's forward quartet of Mané, Sané, Müller and Musiala, but very little penetration thereafter. Nagelsmann wants to construct an attack that doesn't have you asking where Lewandowski has gone; he didn't succeed in that on Tuesday night, though neither was this quartet creating the kind of chances that Lewandowski would normally have finished.

Yet it would be nonsense to suggest that neither Liverpool nor Bayern have benefited from Mané's move. You only needed to speak to Sané afterwards to be reassured of that. "It's amazing," he said, when asked how it was to be playing alongside Mané. He also pointed out that they "have the same style of playing" and kept on talking about how much he enjoyed playing with him.

As for the new system. "It is interesting," Sané said. "You have to watch each other's movement more." And then finally he added the obvious point: it will take time.

At some point, indeed, Mané and Müller will not be falling over each other, and that is when this Bayern attack will look really dangerous. Until then, the audience is waiting and watching ever more closely.



Pukki celebrates scoring his second goal to put Norwich 2-0 up at Carrow Road

Pukki makes it six in a row for Norwich

Norwich City

Pukki 11, 23, Sargent 65

3

Bristol City

Conway 44, Semenyo 77

2

Sky Bet Championship

Jon West

Norwich City won their sixth straight Championship game thanks to two goals from Teemu Pukki and a fifth in five matches from Josh Sargent.

Tommy Conway pulled one back in the first half and the substitute Antoine Semenyo made the final 13 minutes a fraught affair, but the home side, who consolidated second place behind Sheffield United, were convinced that it should not have stood.

However, Dean Smith, the Norwich manager, admitted that his side had been guilty of letting standards slip after going 2-0 up early on. "The scoreline affected us too much and we dropped off," he said. "That is not where I want us to be. We have got to get in people's faces and we were too complacent in the first half."

The away side's defender Kai Naismith was at fault for both Pukki goals, first after he failed to clear a free kick, with the Finn calmly flicking the ball over the goalkeeper, Dan Bentley, and nodding into the empty net. For the second a misplaced pass was picked off by Kenny McLean before the ball found its way to Pukki.

Conway headed home Nakhi Wells' cross from close range, before Sargent restored the two goal advantage. Then Semenyo struck but Norwich thought Max Aarons was fouled in the build-up.

Arrest comes after Pogba patch-up bid

CONTINUED FROM BACK

former Manchester United midfielder and Rafaela Pimenta, his lawyer, filed a criminal lawsuit in August alleging that a group of men had been trying to make him pay them €13 million for having "protected" him.

Pogba told French police that the group included friends from the eastern suburbs of Paris where he grew up, as well as his brother. He said that they threatened him when he went to visit his family this spring and forced him to go to a flat in the French capital, where he handed over €100,000.

Pogba said that they continued to pursue him in Manchester, then in Turin after his return to Juventus on a free transfer this summer.



Mathias Pogba, right, with Paul in 2017

The affair came to light after Pogba's brother posted a video online in which he promised "explosive" revelations about the international star, whom he accused of lying and of manipulating public opinion. The Pogba family have

since tried to patch up their differences, at least in public.

The footballer has let it be known that he believes his brother is being influenced by others.

Maitre Richard Arbib, Mathias Pogba's lawyer, said last week that his client had "nothing to do with any... extortion", adding: "It is clear that the difficulties of the Pogba family are the result of external threats."

He said that his client "aspires more than anything to pacify the situation with his brother".

Pogba underwent an operation on his knee last week after a failed attempt to return to training and faces a battle to be fit enough to join the France squad for their defence of the World Cup in Qatar in November.

Results

Football										
Champions League										
Group A										
Rangers	(0)	O	Napoli	(0)	3					
			Politano 68 (pen)							
			Raspori 85							
			Ndombele 90+1							
Sent off: J. Sands (Rangers) 55										
Napoli	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Liverpool	2	2	0	0	7	1	6			
Ajax	2	1	0	1	3	5	3			
Rangers	2	1	0	1	5	2	3			
	2	0	0	2	0	7	0			
Group E										
AC Milan	(1)	3	D Zagreb	(0)	1					
			Giroud 45 (pen)							
			Saelemaekers 47							
			Pogeba 77							
Group H										
Chelsea	(0)	1	RB Salzburg	(0)	1					
			Sterling 48							
			Okafor 75							
Table on page 70										
Group F										
Real Madrid	(0)	2	RB Leipzig	(0)	0					
			Valverde 80							
			Asensio 90+1							

Shakhtar	(1)	1	Celtic	(1)	1					
			Mudryk 29							
			20,697							
			Bondarenko 10 (og)							
Group G										
Real Madrid	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Shakhtar	2	2	0	0	5	0	6			
Celtic	2	1	1	0	5	2	4			
RB Leipzig	2	0	0	1	1	4	1			
	2	0	1	1	2	1	6			
Group H										
Man City	(0)	2	B Dortmund	(0)	1					
			Stones 80							
			Haaland 84							
Table on page 69										
Group I										
Juventus	(1)	1	Benfica	(1)	2					
			João Mário 43 (pen)							
			Neres 55							
Group J										
Maccabi Haifa	(1)	1	PSG	(1)	3					
			Chery 24							
			Messi 37, Mbappé 69							
			Neymar 88							
Group K										
PSG	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Benfica	2	2	0	0	4	1	6			
Juventus	2	0	0	2	4	0	4			
M Haifa	2	0	0	2	1	5	0			

Sky Bet Championship										
Luton										
	(2)	2	Coventry	(1)	2					
			Gyokeres 11							
			Hammer 61							
Millwall										
	(0)	0	QPR	(0)	2					
			Willock 54							
			Johansen 71							
Norwich										
	(2)	3	Bristol City	(1)	2					
			Pukki 11, 23							
			Sargent 65							
			35,287							
Reading										
	(0)	0	Sunderland	(2)	3					
			Roberts 39, 41							
			Clarke 69							
Rotherham										
	(1)	3	Blackpool	(0)	0					
			Ogbene 34							
			Harding 82, Kelly 85							
West Brom										
	(1)	2	Birmingham	(1)	3					
			Wallace 23							
			Thomas-Asante 83 (pen)							
Sheff Utd										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
Norwich	9	6	2	1	17	5	12	20		
Blackburn	9	6	1	2	15	8	7	19		
Reading	9	5	0	4	11	11	0	15		
Burnley	9	5	0	4	9	14	-5	15		
Sunderland	9	3	5	1	15	9	6	14		
	9	4	2	3	14	9	5	14		

Bristol City	9	4	2	3	18	14	4	14			
QPR	9	4	2	3	14	11	3	14			
Rotherham	8	3	4	1	12	6	6	13			
Watford	9	3	4	2	9	9	0	13			
Wigan	8	3	4	1	9	10	-1	13			
Preston	9	2	6	1	3	2	1	12			
Stoke	9	2	4	1	11	0	11	11			
Birmingham	9	3	2	4	8	10	-2	11			
Cardiff	9	3	2	4	7	10	-3	11			
Blackpool	9	3	2	4	9	13	-4	11			
Hull	9	3	2	4	11	18	-7	11			
Luton	9	2	4	3	9	10	-1	10			
Millwall	9	3	1	5	9	13	-4	10			
West Bromwich	9	1	6	2	14	13	1	9			
Middlesbrough	9	2	3	4	13	15	-2	9			
Swansea	9	2	3	4	7	12	-5	9			
Huddersfield	8	1	1	6	8	13	-5	9			
Coventry	6	0	2	4	7	13	-6	2			
Vanarama National League: South											
Havant & Waterlooville	4	1	1	2	10	11	0	13			
Scottish Women's Premier League One											
Hibernian	0	Glasgow City	4	Hearts	2	Dundee United	0	Partick Thistle	0	Rangers	6

Rugby league

Betfred Championship Sheffield Eagles 34
Dewsbury Rams 24

Rugby union

Women's international England 73 Wales 4
(at Ashtree Gate)

Tennis

Davis Cup finals

Group A (Unipol Arena, Bologna): Italy bt Croatia 3-0; Sweden bt Argentina 2-1. Group B (Pabellon Municipal de Fuente San Luis, Valencia): Canada bt South Korea 2-1; Spain bt Serbia 2-0. Group C (Am Rothenbaum, Hamburg): Australia bt Belgium 3-0; Germany bt France 2-1. Group D (Emirates Arena, Glasgow): Great Britain level with United States 1-1 (GB names first: D Evans lost to T Paul 4-6, 6-4, 4-6; C Norrie bt T Fritz 2-6, 7-6 (7-2), 7-5; Netherlands bt Kazakhstan 2-1.

Fixtures

Football

Kick-off 8.0 unless stated

Europa League: Group A Bodo/Glimt v Zurich; Group B Dynamo Kyiv v AEK Larnaca; Rennes v Fenerbahce; Group C Real Betis v Ludogorets; Roma v HJK; Group D Braga v Union Berlin; US Gillose v Malmo. Group E: Real Sociedad v Omonia Nicosia; Sheriff v Man Utd. Group F (5.45

Lethal Haaland scales new heights

Manchester City

Stones 80, Haaland 84

2
B Dortmund

Bellingham 56

1

John Westerby

He scored again, of course he did. And this time Erling Haaland's contribution was an extraordinarily athletic match-winning goal in the 84th minute, crowning a late comeback for his side against the team he left to join Manchester City in the summer. On this evidence, he has a dramatic instinct to match his nose for goal and, in his first eight matches for Pep Guardiola's side Haaland has now scored 13 goals.

It takes some players time after joining City to settle into their well-oiled system and to meet Guardiola's exacting demands. It takes some players a while to come to terms with the great expectations that accompanied Haaland's arrival at the Etihad Stadium. To judge from his first few weeks at the club, with last night's winner his most spectacular effort so far, he is more than living up to the billing.

With ten minutes remaining, Haaland had barely had sight of goal and City were trailing 1-0 to a headed goal from Jude Bellingham, the England midfielder, who was outstanding in the second half as Borussia Dortmund took control of the game. John Stones then brought City level with a swerving shot from outside the box that took everyone by surprise, including Alexander Meyer, the Dortmund goalkeeper.

Stung into action, City were now looking consistently threatening for the first time in the game. The opening was created by João Cancelo, the full back, who sought out Haaland with a delightful cross, delivered with the outside of his right boot from the left wing. Edging himself fractionally behind the Dortmund defence, Haaland leapt, contorted his body and somehow reached it with the outside of his left boot, at head height, hooking it back across Meyer and sending the Etihad into raptures.

After falling short in the final and semi-final over the past two seasons, City's new signing had been touted as the striker who could make the difference to their fortunes in the Champions League. He proved just that last night, giving his side a second victory to follow their opening 4-0 win against Sevilla, but this was a more satisfying result altogether, even if the



Stones equalised with a superb long-range strike for City after Bellingham, inset left, had put Dortmund ahead, but Guardiola's protests towards the referee at the final whistle earned him a yellow card, below



overall performance left something to be desired.

The result was particularly harsh on Bellingham, who had taken the game by the scruff of the neck early in the second half after an opening period in which City dominated possession, but struggled to find the penetration to bring Haaland into the game against a deep-lying defence.

Their best move of the first half came when İlkay Gundogan, another former Dortmund player, released Riyad Mahrez down the right. Mahrez clipped a delicate cross back into the box, where Haaland rose expectantly and the home crowd rose in anticipation with him. Unfortunately, from the home fans' point of view, the imposing figure of Niklas Süle, all 6ft 5in of him, nipped in with a header to prevent the ball from reaching Haaland.

A third signing from Dortmund, Manuel Akanji, the Switzerland international who joined only a fortnight ago, started his second game for City, this time alongside Nathan Aké in central defence, with Rüdiger Dias dropping to the bench and Stones returning at right back.

They had rarely been stretched in the

Group G

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man City	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
B Dortmund	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Copenhagen	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Sevilla	2	0	1	1	0	4	1

first half, but after half-time Bellingham, playing to the right of Emre Can in central midfield, really began to assert himself. Turning and running at City, he forced Rodri to concede a foul that earned him a yellow card.

Dortmund had most recently visited the Etihad Stadium in the Champions League quarter-finals in April last year, behind closed doors, when they were again undone by a late winner, on that occasion from Phil Foden. Only 17 at the time, Bellingham really caught the eye at the time and last night he gave his side the lead in the 56th minute, adding to the goal he had scored in Dortmund's 3-0 victory over Copenhagen last week.

From a bouncing ball on the left, Marco Reus pulled a

flat cross cleverly across City's defence and Bellingham, sensing their hesitation, nipped in to glance a header past Ederson. He celebrated joyously in front of Dortmund's fans, grabbing the badge on his chest, as if to suggest that any talk of a transfer to the Premier League, with talk of interest from Liverpool, may be decidedly premature.

Guardiola responded immediately with a triple substitution, bringing on Foden, Bernardo Silva and Julián Alvarez, and it did not take long for Haaland's first real chance to be created. Running down the right onto a ball over the top from Kevin De Bruyne, the angle was tight and he could only find the outside of the near post with his low right-footed shot.

Belatedly, there was now a far greater urgency about City, with all three substitutes quickly making their mark. A lovely low cross from Foden was turned away by a sliding Mats Hummels



'His goal was like Cruyff's'

CONTINUED FROM BACK

two wins from two for City. Guardiola said it was reminiscent of a finish he saw from Cruyff, the Dutch three-times Ballon d'Or winner, against Atletico Madrid in 1973. "I saw Cruyff score an incredible goal in Camp Nou and the moment Erling scored I thought it was quite similar," Guardiola said.

It was Haaland's 13th goal in eight games since signing from Dortmund and although his former club had done well to shackle him, the 22-year-old jokingly pointed out that he had enjoyed the last laugh, with his goal coming in the 84th minute.

"They didn't stop me...I scored," the striker said. "They played well. I was quite sure I was going to be followed the whole game because Edin [Terzic, the head coach] knows me very well."

It was a disciplined display from City and once John Stones had equalised, after Jude Bellingham's opener, there was an air of inevitability about who would get the winner.

"Yeah, I knew it [would be him]," Bellingham said. "Not many people know how to stop him."

with Haaland ready to pounce behind him.

With the glittering attacking talents around him struggling to find their fluency, Stones took matters into his own hands. Taking the ball outside the box, and with time, he chanced his arm and produced a powerful, swerving shot that beat the unsuspecting Meyer at the near post. Game on.

By now, the momentum was all with City and Dortmund's defence, who had done so much to shackle Haaland so far, were visibly beginning to tire. And when it came, the match-winning goal was beautifully conceived by Cancelo and finished in true box-office fashion by Haaland. If he continues as he has started, City will take some stopping this season.

Manchester City (4-3-3): Ederson 7 – J Stones 7, M Aké 6, N Aké 6, J Cancelo 7 – K De Bruyne 6, Rodri 7, I Gundogan 7 (B Silva 58min, 7) – R Mahrez 6 (J Alvarez 58, 7), E Haaland 7 (K Phillips 90+2), J Grealish 5 (P Foden 58, 7). **Booked:** Rodri, Foden.
Borussia Dortmund (4-3-3): A Meyer 6 – T Meunier 7, N Süle 7, M Hummels 8, R Guerreiro 7 – S Özcan 7 (Moukoko 88), E Can 7, J Bellingham 8 – M Reus 6 (K Adeyemi 89), A Modeste 6 (N Schlotterbeck), G Reyna 6 (D Malen 62, 6). **Booked:** Malen, Meunier, Özcan.
Referee: D Orsato (Italy).

Celtic held despite encouraging display

Shakhtar Donetsk

Mudryk 29

1
Celtic

Bondarenko (og) 10

1

Michael Grant

Scottish Football Correspondent, Warsaw

The Celtic captain Callum McGregor claimed that his team had arrived at Champions League level by taking their first point against Shakhtar Donetsk in Warsaw last night.

Artem Bondarenko's early own goal briefly had the Scottish champions on course for only their third ever away win in a Champions League group stage match only for Mykhaylo Mud-

ryk to equalise on a counterattack. Daizen Maeda and Giorgos Giakoumakis had second-half chances to claim a deserved Celtic win, but they avoided defeat for only the sixth time in 31 away group games in Uefa's elite tournament and now face RB Leipzig in Germany on October 5.

"We spoke about it as a group today, that we want to arrive and the only way to do that is to get points in the group," McGregor said. "A point is a good result when you come here. The home fixtures will always be important but to get something on the board tonight was really vital too. The next stage is to put one of those [chances] away and win the game, but this gives us belief."

Ange Postecoglou, the Celtic manag-

er, was hugely encouraged by his players' attitude and work rate a week after going down 3-0 to Real Madrid. "The performance was excellent. Obviously the result was not reflective of that. We needed that second goal. We will get our rewards if we keep playing that kind of football and showing that sort of commitment."

The Shakhtar head coach, Igor Jovicic, said it had been one of their most important games of the past 20 years. "Celtic are very dynamic, very aggressive, they move very fast and we knew that we would be facing aggressive pressing," he said. "They gave us a very hard time but don't forget we were supported by 40 million fans in Ukraine and we did score a point."

McGregor's heroics in vain

Rangers
0
Napoli

Politano 68 (pen), Raspadori 85, Ndombele 90+1

3

Paul Forsyth

Rangers fell to their second defeat in group A despite the heroics of their goalkeeper Allan McGregor. The 40-year-old, who had been recalled to make his first start in a Champions League group match since 2010 after an injury to Jon McLaughlin, twice saved Napoli efforts from the penalty spot.

Giovanni van Bronckhorst insisted afterwards that the sending-off of James Sands, the central defender, for

his second bookable offence to concede a penalty changed the game.

"Until the red card we gave Napoli a really tough game," the Rangers manager said. "We were organised, good in the game and players were giving everything to get a good result."

McGregor blocked Piotr Zielinski's penalty, only for Matteo Politano to tuck home the rebound. The VAR, however, ordered a retake for encroachment. Zielinski tried again and again McGregor saved.

That was after an hour. Another penalty in the 68th minute, for handball against Borna Barisic, was scored by Politano to give Napoli the lead. Giacomo Raspadori added a second and Tanguy Ndombele a third in stoppage time.

Sport Champions League

New tricks, similar failings for

Henry Winter
Chief Football
Writer



Chelsea
Sterling 48

1

RB Salzburg
Okafor 75

1

The Chelsea co-owner Todd Boehly needs to focus less on the All-Star concept and more on the danger of his side becoming a Lone Star franchise, with only Raheem Sterling truly delivering. Graham Potter's first game as the Chelsea head coach ended in frustration and dropped Champions League points here at Stamford Bridge last night because of missed opportunities and mistakes. It would have been even worse but for Sterling.

Chelsea have one point from two games and now face back-to-back tests against the group leaders, AC Milan. At least Chelsea showed signs of assimilating the demands of "Potter-ball", playing from the back, taking risks and showing an improved tempo and some adventure, particularly out wide, but the absence of a fit, in-form finisher and individual mistakes cost them.

Sterling did well, scoring his 25th goal in the Champions League and interpreting his left wingback duties intelligently. Thiago Silva was again a controlling force in Chelsea's back three but made one expensive error. Reece James attacked positively, played a part in launching the move for Sterling's goal but has to watch his indiscipline. Chelsea can build attacks but they cannot finish them consistently.

Potter must quickly find an answer to Chelsea's problems at centre forward. Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang was poor, rusty and perhaps still shaken up by that broken jaw. Kai Havertz has lost his way, talent without a cause, while Armando Broja is still developing, although he did bring some welcome directness after coming on.

Potter will need to learn something that many Chelsea fans could have told him: that Christian Pulisic and Hakim Ziyech are not the answer, and certainly not at wingback. Potter will need to explain why Pulisic came on at left wingback when Ben Chilwell, such a good attacking outlet as well as defender, kicked his £50million heels on the bench. And why remove Sterling, who was such a pacey threat? Sterling would have done a better job through the middle than Potter's other options.

Chelsea's latest steward has always wanted to live his professional life out of the "comfort zone" and he has certainly done that coming here. Potter knows the expectations. There was even the odd grumble as Chelsea walked off with the score 0-0 at the break and a brief flurry of boos at the final whistle.

Potter knew he had to impose his own approach swiftly, doing things his way. So he omitted £103million of new central-defensive talent in Kalidou Koulibaly and Wesley Fofana for 37-year-old Thiago Silva and César Azpilicueta, 33. He obviously wanted more ball-playing from the back, and Silva soon delivered a 60-yard crossfield pass to James, Chelsea's right wingback.

As Potter willed them on, Chelsea constantly raced forward, especially through the left-sided Marc Cucurella, who developed into a £55million player under Potter at Brighton & Hove Albion. Cucurella was operating as the left-sided of the three centre backs,

Potter joins elite club

Graham Potter last night became only the ninth Englishman to manage a match in the European Cup since 1992:

Howard Wilkinson (Leeds United)

Ray Harford (Blackburn Rovers)

Bobby Robson (Porto, PSV Eindhoven, Newcastle United)

Harry Redknapp (Tottenham Hotspur)

Gary Neville (Valencia)

Craig Shakespeare (Leicester City)

Frank Lampard (Chelsea)

Michael Carrick (Manchester United)

Graham Potter (Chelsea)

Group E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
D Zagreb	2	1	0	1	2	3	3
RB Salzburg	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Chelsea	2	0	1	1	1	2	1

impressing early on by outleaping the taller Benjamin Sesko and looking to link with Sterling, working overtime at wingback.

Cucurella embodied this new, more intense style, taking quick throw-ins to Sterling, then Aubameyang, urging Chelsea upfield. Cucurella even lectured the Slovakian fourth official, Peter Kruzliak, when RB Salzburg momentarily delayed in returning the ball for a Chelsea free kick. He wanted to get on with the game, get on with executing Potter's game plan. With every sign of adventure, even if it petered out, Potter did his trademark applause with hands above his head.

Kepa Arrizabalaga started in goal, with Édouard Mendy having a patella tendon problem, and was soon putting Jorginho under pressure with a driven ball to the midfielder's feet. James then dropped deep, collecting a pass from Azpilicueta, dribbling inside, riding tackles. From goalkeeper to wingback, this was Potter-ball: risk-taking, attacking, chance-making.

This was another footballing occasion when it was impossible to escape seismic events elsewhere and nor did the Stamford Bridge crowd want to. This was the evening when Chelsea paid an emotional farewell to the Queen. After all the historic scenes in central London throughout the day, the tributes continued three miles to the west with huge portraits of the late monarch dominating the megastore behind the Shed.

After two Chelsea Pensioners laid wreaths on the pitch, Stamford Bridge broke into *God Save the Queen*, observed a faultless minute's silence, then the noise returned as if a switch had been flicked, and Chelsea set about trying to break down a well-organised, spirited Salzburg, who had won seven of their past eight games. Matthias Jaissle's side threatened on the counter and Arrizabalaga needed to sprint out to beat



Sterling sends his shot beyond Köhn shortly after the interval to notch up his 25th Champions League goal and, below, celebrates the landmark strike



Mount down the right. Mount's cross travelled at speed across the Salzburg penalty area, and really should have been cut out by Bernardo but it carried on to Sterling. He was unmarked and enjoyed sufficient time to touch his right foot on to the ball, nudging it forward, and then bringing his right foot into the ball, this time powerfully, sending it across Philipp Köhn and in.

Potter was reminded of the challenges in store, and the work required defensively, when Salzburg equalised. Mateo Kovacic lost the ball when challenged robustly and he stayed down, hoping the referee would take mercy and stop the game.

Quite rightly the Slovakian official, Ivan Kruzliak, waved play on. Sterling failed to cut out a pass in midfield, Silva failed to regain possession when leaping towards the feet of Junior Adamu, giving the Salzburg substitute a second to cross. Azpilicueta failed to react to the run of Okafor, who got in ahead of the Chelsea captain to place his shot past Arrizabalaga. Potter has work to do, plenty of it.

Chelsea (3-1-4-2): K Arrizabalaga 6 – C Azpilicueta 6 (H Ziyech 81min), T Silva 6, M Cucurella 7 – Jorginho 7 – R James 7, M Kovacic 7 (C Gallagher 81), M Mount 7, R Sterling 7 (C Pulisic 84) – K Havertz 5 (A Broja 66, 7), P-E Aubameyang 6 (R Loftus-Cheek 66, 6). **Booked** James. **RB Salzburg** (4-3-1-2): P Köhn 7 – A Dedic 6, Bernardo 6, S Pavlovic 6, A Ulmer 6 – N Capaldo 7, N Seiwald 6, L Susic 6 (D Kameri 69) – M Kjaergaard 6 – B Sesko 6 (J Adamu 70), N Okafor 7 (S Koita 85). **Booked** Pavlovic, Adamu, Capaldo. **Referee** I Kruzliak (Slovakia). **Attendance** 38,818.

Key role for

Tom Roddy

ARRIVAL AND WARM-UP

Dressed in a slim black suit, fitting for a night paying tribute to the Queen, as well as his first Champions League game, Graham Potter's presence prior to kick-off was only to meet the broadcasters who, like everyone else, were curious about his first Chelsea line-up.

On the pitch, players were getting used to a change in personnel. Anthony Barry, a coach who developed through the system at Chelsea, was the only remaining figure from the previous regime, leading a shooting routine where he eagerly applauded each effort that beat the goalkeeper Marcus Bettinelli. Potter's trusted coaches Bruno Saltor and Billy Reid, two of the group that followed him from Brighton & Hove Albion, led the warm-ups.

TEAM SELECTION

If there had been any question marks over whether Potter would have full autonomy over player selection at Stamford Bridge then it was answered 75 minutes before kick-off. Some £100million-plus of defensive summer signings were left out in the manager's first match in charge, as Wesley Fofana and Kalidou Koulibaly began from the bench. It came as no surprise that Marc Cucurella started, given his develop-

Potter's Chelsea

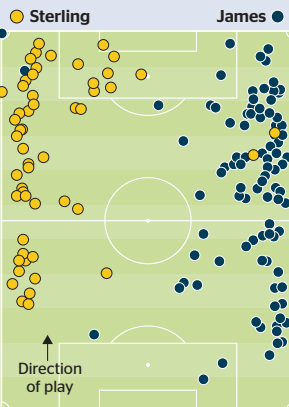


KIERAN GALVIN/EPA

Jorginho, lots of width but no Fofana

Old-fashioned wingers

Raheem Sterling on the left and Reece James on the right were instructed to work up and down their flanks for Chelsea



ment under Potter at Brighton, but the involvement of Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang was telling. Aubameyang was considered a Thomas Tuchel signing but led the line alongside Kai Havertz well.

TACTICS

Welcome to Potter-ball, west London. Brighton fans would have been familiar with what unfolded. Some beautiful patterns of play that varied in style, from the width offered by Raheem Sterling and Reece James on either wing to the combination play through the middle between midfielders Mason Mount and Mateo Kovacic with Havertz and Aubameyang. For all the chances and openings, Chelsea lacked a finish in the final third.

The most notable change was Jorginho's role. Similar to those Maurizio Sarri days, the Italian midfielder acted as quarterback, picking up possession from defence and looking for the variety of runners on offer in a top-heavy formation.

TOUCHLINE DEMEANOUR

You could not help but compare to Tuchel, largely due to the sharp contrast in coaches. Where the German would yell at his players, scold officials and complain to his coaching staff, Potter, right, was a picture of peace on the touchline. The extreme highs and lows were replaced with Potter's understated steady-



ness. Sterling's goal was met with calm applause by the former Brighton manager who had never been to a Champions League match, let alone managed one. Noah Okafor's equaliser hardly raised a frown from Potter.

There was a grimace at a 50-50 decision that didn't go Chelsea's way and one of those looks at Cucurella after a misplaced pass that said: "I'm not angry, just disappointed." This was the start of the understated era at Stamford Bridge.

WHO IMPROVED AND WHO DIDN'T?

Jorginho said Potter's first task at Chelsea was rebuilding confidence within the team and there was an immediate tick here. They played with a cool head, passing out from the back in patterns that pleased Potter, but there was also an increase in individual performances. Mount had his best game of a season that has been underwhelming so far by his standards, while Jorginho and Sterling also excelled. Aubameyang's runs created opportunities for himself as he eases back to form after suffering a fractured jaw during a break-in at his home. Havertz, however, was below par again.

Haaland v Ream: our picks for regional XIs

If the recommendation of Todd Boehly to stage a Premier League All-Star game was followed and sides representing the north and south were assembled for the good of the English football pyramid, who would be selected? And who would win? Tasked with including at least one player from each Premier League club, *Times* writers have chosen their XIs and predicted which region would come out on top. The "southern" team covers the London clubs, as well as Southampton, Bournemouth and Brighton & Hove Albion. The other ten teams make up the "northern" XI.

GREGOR ROBERTSON

Boehly needs a PR adviser. Or, failing that, to stop speaking in public. But if an All-Star game were to take place — beneath a sky of flying pigs — I reckon the north would win it.

I've chosen a mix of solid citizens and potential at the back, and stocked the attacks with speed and ruthless finishing. Look at that northern powerhouse of an attack: who wouldn't want to see Thiago Alcântara and Kevin De Bruyne rifling together, Allan Saint-Maximin chasing one of their through-balls, or Erling Haaland scoring his 75th goal in Los Angeles in June? The south defence, that's who.

North (4-2-3-1): D Henderson (Forest) — M Cash (Villa), J Tarkowski (Everton), N Collins (Wolves), T Malacia (Man Utd) — Thiago (Liverpool), Y Tielemans (Leicester) — A Saint-Maximin (Newcastle), K De Bruyne (Man City), J Harrison (Leeds) — E Haaland (Man City).
South (4-2-3-1): R Sánchez (Brighton) — R James (Chelsea), A Bella-Kotchop (Southampton), L Kelly (Bournemouth), O Zinchenko (Arsenal) — D Rice (West Ham), J Palhinha (Fulham) — B Mbeumo (Brentford), G Jesus (Arsenal), W Zaha (Palace) — H Kane (Spurs).

CHARLOTTE DUNCKER

There's more experience in the north's back four but there's a youthful flair to the south's back line. On paper, the north team have more balance in midfield, with De Bruyne and James Maddison bringing the creativity.

Both teams have got double picks from the top two clubs, Arsenal and Manchester City, with Martin Odegaard perhaps being the south's creative outlet. Looking at the individual talent and balance of the team, the north may well pip it.

North (4-3-1-2): J Pickford (Everton) — K Trippier (Newcastle), R Varane (Man Utd), N Collins (Leeds), L Digne (Villarreal) — J Maddison (Leicester), R Neves (Wolves), K De Bruyne (Man City), — M Salah (Liverpool), E Haaland (Man City), J Harrison (Leeds).
South (4-3-3): R Sánchez (Brighton) — R James (Chelsea), P Jansson (Brentford), T Adarabioyo (Fulham), M Cucurella (Chelsea) — D Rice (West Ham), J Ward-Prowse (Southampton), P Billing (Bournemouth) — G Martinelli (Arsenal), H Kane (Spurs), W Zaha (Palace).

'My group has a nice spirit – and quality to respond'

Tom Roddy

Graham Potter admitted Chelsea face an uphill task in their quest to qualify for the Champions League group stages after last night's draw with RB Salzburg.

Potter's first game in charge since replacing Thomas Tuchel as head coach left Chelsea bottom of group E with one point from two games and back-to-back matches against AC Milan ahead.

Raheem Sterling struck the opening goal in Potter's first Champions League match as a manager before Noah Okafor equalised for the Austrian side.

"We can't lie, it is not the position we want to be in but we have to respond, it's as simple as that," Potter said. "It is going to be a tough group. I think. But there's enough quality in the team and the squad to respond and we have to look forward to those games. I've been

(Wolves), R Lodi (Nottm Forest) — K De Bruyne (Man City), T Adams (Leeds), J Ramsey (Villa) — J Maddison (Leicester) — L Diaz (Liverpool), E Haaland (Man City).
South (4-2-2-2): A Ramsdale (Arsenal) — R James (Chelsea), M Guéhi (Palace), L Kelly (Bournemouth), A Hickey (Brentford) — D Rice (West Ham), J Ward-Prowse (Southampton) — M Odegaard (Arsenal), L Trossard (Brighton) — H Kane (Spurs), A Mitrovic (Fulham).

ALYSON RUDD

I have used personal soft spots allied to a vague sense of balance. Both teams would be counterattacking. Some picks are obvious, some require explanation. Fulham's Tim Ream is a cult hero who has shocked us all by coping this time around in the Premier League. Morgan Gibbs-White is not the real deal yet but he is a midfielder who impressed when he first emerged at Wolverhampton Wanderers. I have picked two Liverpool players and yet neither is among Jürgen Klopp's attackers. It would end 4-4 but I am not sure how much those watching would care.

North (4-3-3): Alisson (Liverpool) — L Ayling (Leeds), M Kilman (Wolves), J Konaté (Liverpool), D Burn (Newcastle) — M Gibbs-White (Nottm Forest), C Eriksen (Man Utd), W Ndidi (Leicester) — A Gordon (Everton), E Haaland (Man City), O Watkins (Villa).
South (4-3-3): R Sánchez (Brighton) — R James (Chelsea), T Ream (Fulham), T Silva (Chelsea), O Zinchenko (Arsenal) — J Ward-Prowse (Southampton), D Rice (West Ham), J Lerma (Bournemouth) — W Zaha (Palace), H Kane (Spurs), B Mbeumo (Brentford).

MARTIN HARDY

The power of the north — ten of the past 12 Premier League winners have come from there — is reflected in the two sides. The south has nothing to match De Bruyne or Haaland.

Kane and Gabriel Martinelli would be interesting to pair up for the south, and Rice and James Ward-Prowse in a midfield together would ensure the south has industry and precision.

With so much emphasis on star attackers, piecing together defences becomes problematic, but United's Lisandro Martínez has been intriguing to watch.

North (4-3-3): J Pickford (Everton) — K Trippier (Newcastle), L Martínez (Man Utd), W Boly (Nottm Forest), L Digne (Villarreal) — J Maddison (Leicester), R Neves (Wolves), K De Bruyne (Man City), — M Salah (Liverpool), E Haaland (Man City), J Harrison (Leeds).
South (4-3-3): R Sánchez (Brighton) — R James (Chelsea), P Jansson (Brentford), T Adarabioyo (Fulham), M Cucurella (Chelsea) — D Rice (West Ham), J Ward-Prowse (Southampton), P Billing (Bournemouth) — G Martinelli (Arsenal), H Kane (Spurs), W Zaha (Palace).

very positive with the players, their response, their attitude — they're intelligent. They are good players, top players. They are working hard for each other. There is a nice spirit in the group.

"They are disappointed because the results haven't gone as well as they would like which is normal and you can feel that disappointment, you can feel that frustration. Today is not the best start in terms of points for us but in terms of how we acted on the pitch, as a group, lots of positives."

Sterling insisted there is a belief in the squad that Chelsea will improve under Potter. "It's a bad result in the end but we played some good football at times," Sterling said. "I took the chance but we have to finish the job off. It felt like we were in control, but one chance, one goal for them. Under a new manager we will get better and keep progressing."

Sport

Mike Atherton

Technology tests authority of umpires even at county level

Page 64



High and mighty

- Acrobatic Haaland snatches win for City
- Chelsea frustrated on Potter's debut

Manchester City 2
Borussia Dortmund 1

Charlotte Duncker

Pep Guardiola likened Erling Haaland to the Barcelona legend Johan Cruyff after his acrobatic finish helped Manchester City come from behind to beat Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League.

While Chelsea were held 1-1 by RB Salzburg in Graham Potter's first match in charge, the Norway striker produced a superb outstretched finish at the far post against his former club to make it

Continued on page 69



TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER BRADLEY ORMESHER

Pogba's brother held over 'plot'

Adam Sage Paris

Paul Pogba's older brother was placed under arrest yesterday on suspicion of participating in a plot to kidnap the France midfielder.

Mathias Pogba, 32, was detained in custody in Paris after being summoned for questioning over claims that he had helped to kidnap his 29-year-old brother, part of France's 2018 World Cup-winning squad, with a view to extorting €13 million (about £11.2 million) from him, according to police and judicial sources in Paris.

Three other people, who have not been named, were also arrested as part of an investigation into allegations of "extortion with a weapon as an organised gang, abduction or kidnapping...to prepare or to facilitate...a crime and belonging to a criminal gang". The arrests come after the

Continued on page 68

Stewart in line to be selector

Elizabeth Ammon

Alec Stewart has emerged as a leading contender to become the new England national selector.

The role was dispensed with last year by Ashley Giles and given to Chris Silverwood, the head coach at the time, but Rob Key, Giles's successor as the England managing director, has reintroduced the position.

The position was advertised last week, but Key has already approached potential candidates to encourage them to apply. It is understood that Stewart, the Surrey director of cricket and a former England batsman, is high on Key's wishlist given his exceptional knowledge of county players and ability to identify emerging talent.

It is not confirmed whether Stewart, 59, has formally applied for the job but

Continued on page 65

Rangers defy Uefa by singing national anthem

Martyn Ziegler

Rangers last night defied Uefa as the national anthem was played through the public address system at Ibrox before last night's Champions League match against Napoli.

Uefa had previously turned down a request from Rangers, Chelsea and Manchester City to play *God Save The*

King before their respective kick-offs, but the Ibrox club ignored the governing body.

Both sets of players had stood for an impeccably observed minute's silence to pay tribute to Queen Elizabeth II with players wearing black armbands while a choreographed display of the Union Jack ran the length of the Broomloan Stand.

The club had released a statement before kick-off making clear their intention to sing the anthem and make a display of the Union Jack, asking their fans to be seated well in advance of the game. It is unclear what action Uefa will take.

The Premier League yesterday announced that the national anthem will be sung before kick-off at all matches

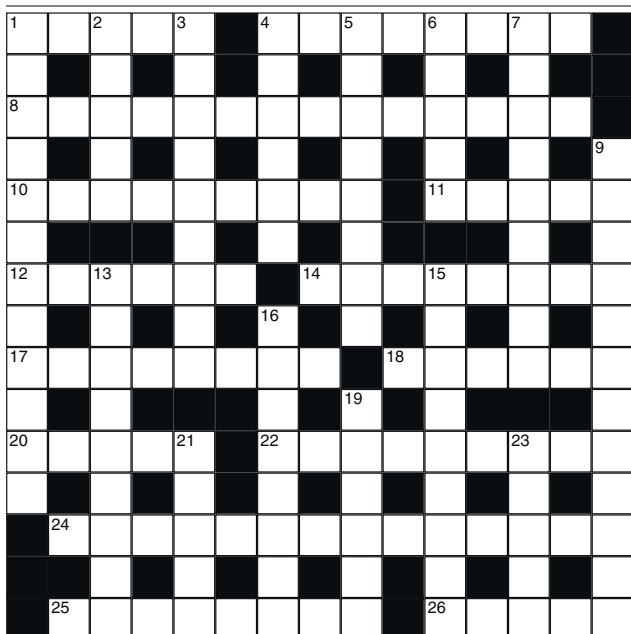
this weekend, with crowds invited to applaud the Queen 70 minutes into the games.

Managers will lead their teams out to the centre circle before kick-off for a minute's silence, and players and match officials will wear black armbands.

It comes after Uefa rejected requests from British teams to play the national

Continued on page 66

Times Crossword 28,396



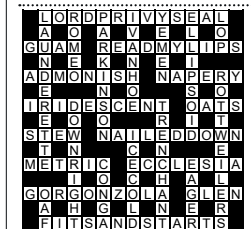
ACROSS

- One over with a North American (5)
- Idiot treats sheep with parasite (8)
- He or I, perhaps working close by, calm him (8,6)
- A cut — concerning in my union (9)
- Minister denied parking offence (5)
- Shrub unknown in area beside a river (6)
- Capital of Java rose after an earthquake (8)
- Helps a lieutenant to guard key for compound (4,4)
- Director in clash with crew (6)
- Dance with arm round? (5)
- A new church ceremony installs Oxford's first hermit (9)
- Sweeping home with record speed — about one minute (14)
- Get anxious just within marshy area (8)
- Sensitivity about India is taken as read (5)

DOWN

- Unparalleled money gained penning short story (12)
- Take with difficulty — or with ease? (5)
- Rowdy behaviour is unusual in session (9)
- Fire-breather to keep smoking? (6)
- Gentle person stays up suffering, nursing cold (8)
- Pack, heading for another place in Florida (5)
- Put out broadcast supporting member (9)
- Notice girl put on weight, intended to be understood (12)
- A former country home, alternatively part of Turkey (4,5)
- Expert on body is the cause of hazy defensive vision perhaps? (9)
- Plain unfortunate king caught in court regularly (5-3)
- Exploit small group without following (6)
- Outstanding old part of large house? (5)
- Man's tax-free account about to rise (5)

Yesterday's solution 28,395



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